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# A FEW HENS



THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 3.

BOSTON, MASS., APRIL 15, 1900.

NO. 10.

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**A FEW HENS**, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL HINTS.

Busy hens.  
Be honorable.  
April showers.  
Balmy weather.  
Study to please.  
Become a leader.  
Got spring fever?  
Shun the braggard.  
Kindness conquers.  
System saves labor.  
House cleaning time.  
Control your temper.  
A good time to build.  
Think before you act.  
Avoid haphazardness.  
Rout out the enemies.  
Gentleness is a virtue.  
Don't rush your work.  
Trap nests tell secrets.  
Don't get discouraged.  
Guarantee satisfaction.  
Laziness invites failure.  
Make a gradual growth.  
Buff breeds are popular.  
American varieties lead.  
Trap nests are plentiful.  
Give the broodies a rest.  
Have good natured hens.  
Neglect gnaws the vitals.  
Crossbreds are a mistake.  
Trap nests are detectives.  
Patronize our advertisers.  
Thoroughbreds for utility.  
Carefulness avoids disaster.  
Business fowls are energetic.  
Subscriptions are pouring in.  
Does your wife love poultry?

## Experimental Farm Notes.

*Contest Among the Layers—A White Plymouth Rock Pullet Takes the Lead—Some Interesting Figures—Theories Tested—Notes and Comments.*

February was a rather mixed month in point of weather. Here in Southern New Jersey we had more mild days than bad ones, but when it did turn cold it came so sudden, and was so sharp, that both the stock and the attendants felt the change very much.

In *Pen No. 0*: Hen No. 27 began laying February 13; No. 23, February 16; No. 1, February 18; No. 5, February 19; No. 25, February 24. This made a total of 7 layers in this pen for February, there being but two in January.

*Pen No. 1*: No. 16 began laying February 1st; No. 43, February 14; No. 17, February 19; No. 15, February 20; Nos. 10 and 21, February 21; No. 20, February 23. Total of layers for month, 7; none in January.

*Pen No. 2*: No. 47 began laying February 7; No. 50, February 10; No. 45, February 14; No. 54, February 16; No. 51, February 19; No. 55, February 22. Total for month, 12; in January, 7.

*Pen No. 3*: No. 32 began laying February 2; No. 41, February 15; No. 40, February 25; No. 39, February 28. Total for month, 5; in January, 1.

*Pen No. 4*: No new layers, and only 11 out of the 13 that laid in January did any work during February (one died, and the other went broody.)

*Pen No. 5*: Nos. 17 and 23 began laying February 3; Nos. 19, 25 and 27, February 5; No. 7, February 12; No. 3, February 13; Nos. 2 and 4, February 15; No. 15, February 23. Total for month, 21; in January, 10.

*Pen No. 6*: No. 68 began laying February 1; No. 58, February 8; No. 69, February 16. Total for month, 7; in January, 5.

*Pen No. 7*: No. 39 began laying February 1; No. 34, February 7; No. 36, February 9; No. 33, February 15; No. 40, February 20; No. 35, February 23. Total for month, 15; in January, 9.

*Pen No. 8*: No. 57 began laying February 3; No. 54, February 5; Nos. 56 and 59, February 15; No. 58, February 18. Total 8; in January, 4.

*Pen No. 9*: Nos. 63 and 81 began laying February 6; No. 70, February 8; No. 66, February 11; No. 68, February 14; No. 79, February 15; No. 64, February 16; No. 75, February 17. Total, 9; in January, 1.

In the Pens Nos. 4D, 5D and 6D, there were no changes, excepting that No. 90, of 5D pen began laying February 18.

During the month of February, the following number of hens and pullets were laying:

Pen No. 0	7
1	7
2	12
3	5
4	11
5	21
6	7
7	15
8	8
9	9
4D	4
5D	4
6D	5

Total, 115

A gain of 50 layers in the month.

The above table represents the following number of layers of each breed:

Brahmas	38
Wyandottes	47
White Plymouth Rocks	17
Rhode Island Reds	10

During the month the following number of eggs were laid (not including those by Leghorn, Silver Wyandotte and Single Comb White Wyandotte hens):

Brahmas, 38 head, 303 eggs; average 7.37  
Wyandottes, 47 head, 430 eggs; average 9.7  
W. P. Rocks, 17 head, 119 eggs; average 7  
R. I. Reds, 10 head, 91 eggs; average 9.1

The table shows that, for number of actual layers, the Wyandottes in February took the lead, with the Rhode Island Reds second.

The standing of individual layers is as follows (including January account):

No. 77, White Plymouth Rock pullet	31
62, Brahma pullet (Cost)	29
26, Wyandotte pullet	28
8, " hen	27
11, " "	26
89, Rhode Island Red pullet	26
1, Wyandotte hen	25
86, Rhode Island Red pullet	24
6, Brahma hen (Roberts)	23
5, Wyandotte hen	23
18, " pullet	23
35, Brahma pullet (Felch)	22
32, Wyandotte hen	22
12, " "	22

58, Rhode Island Red pullet.....	22	eggs
39, Wyandotte pullet .....	21	
46, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	20	
52, " " " .....	20	
16, Wyandotte pullet.....	20	
95, Rhode Island Red pullet.....	20	
59, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	19	
Silver Wyandotte pullet.....	19	
56, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	18	
68, " " " .....	18	
38, Wyandotte pullet.....	18	
53, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	17	
21, Wyandotte pullet.....	17	
17, " " " .....	17	
64, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	17	
31, Wyandotte pullet.....	17	
43, " " " .....	17	
51, White Plymouth Rock hen.....	17	
94, Rhode Island Red pullet.....	16	
45, Wyandotte pullet.....	15	
63, White Plymouth Rock pullet	15	
6, Wyandotte hen.....	14	
93, Rhode Island Red pullet.....	14	
47, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	13	
43, Wyandotte hen.....	13	
22, " pullet.....	13	
23, " " .....	13	
24, " " .....	12	
27, " " .....	12	
28, " " .....	12	
58, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	12	
44, Wyandotte pullet .....	12	
46, White Plymouth Rock hen.....	12	
52, " " " .....	12	
S. C. W. Wyandotte hen.....	12	
70, White Plymouth Rock pullet	12	
16, Brahma pullet (Felch).....	11	
45, " (Cost).....	11	
41, Wyandotte hen.....	11	
54, White Plymouth Rock pullet	11	
50, Brahma pullet (Cost).....	10	
32, Brahma pullet (Felch).....	10	
10, Wyandotte hen.....	10	
20, " pullet.....	10	
37, " " .....	10	
32, " " .....	10	
White Leghorn hen.....	10	

For want of space, we have concluded to omit the names and records of all pullets that have laid under 10 eggs during the months of January and February. These are mostly late-hatched pullets which have only started to lay during the month. Each month we will set a limit figure, and all not coming up to that will be taken out of the race. At the end of the year we will give the actual record, as near as possible, of all the layers, from the highest to the lowest.

As we stated in our last issue, it is utterly impossible to get the actual record of all the layers, as it is not uncommon to find nests on the dropping boards, in the houses, or out in the runs. During February, in Pen No. 0, 3 eggs were found as above; Pen No. 1, 5; Pen No. 2, 14; Pen No. 3, 4; Pen No. 4, 2; Pen No. 5, 20; Pen No. 6, 7; Pen No. 7, 21; Pen No. 9, 2; Pen No. 4D, 1; Pen No. 5D, 1; Pen No. 6D, 3.

February 6th we killed Wyandotte pullet No. 44, as she in some way became poisoned and suffered greatly.

February 13, killed Brahma hen No. 28, on account of pendulous crop; a very bad case.

February 17, Brahma hen No. 27 laid a small pigeon-sized egg. The common theory has been that these eggs denote the end of a litter, and the hen laying them will not lay again for some time. That theory, however, was soon exploded. February 18, the same hen laid another small egg, but somewhat larger than the day before. February 20, she laid a regular sized egg, and has continued doing so.

February 19, Wyandotte hen died from indigestion.

February 26, hen No. 27, which laid the pigeon-sized eggs, laid a double-yolk egg, which proves that the pigeon-sized and

double-yolked eggs come when a hen is too fat. This hen in question was very fat.

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As stated last month, in our experiments we have hens and pullets of all conditions, and naturally the late hatched pullets and the fat hens are more or less slow in beginning to lay. That fact must not be lost sight of in watching our accounts.

February 14 the Brahma pullet, No. 62, which did such good laying in January, stepped out of the race, temporarily, by becoming broody. This act of hers, placed her second in the contest for February. It is remarkable how few broodies we have had so far this year. Quite a number showed signs of wanting to sit, but gave up the attempt of their own account.

\*\*\*

We purchased two fine cockerels (White Wyandottes) from W. F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J., which we want to mate to our largest pullets. Mr. Stroud is a strong utility man, and we believe that the introduction of blood from his stock will greatly benefit our birds.

\*\*\*

During the month of February, the highest price we received retail for eggs was 22 cents a dozen; lowest, 17 cents; average, 21 cents.

#### ← → Eggs and Egg Farming.

##### *Fresh Eggs and a Fancy Market—A Few Good Records—Pointers of Value.*

The man who does not cater to the whims of his best market is unwise.

It is generally believed that egg formation takes place mainly at night.

When you buy eggs for hatching you pay for blood, and not merely the egg. Mixing eggs of different varieties in the incubator is apt to cause a poor hatch.

The proper coloring of eggs is a dark brown for the Asiatic varieties, a light brown for the American class, and a pure white for the Mediterraneans.

"Didn't you send any of your chickens to the poultry show?" "No; I've noticed that when a hen acquires a taste for society she gets too stuck-up to lay eggs."—Chicago Record.

If the chicks when they hatch out do not show the markings of the pure breed they represent, don't think you have been cheated. No chicks while in the down ever show the correct plumage.

The *National Fanciers' Journal* says the most experienced breeders agree that if 8 strong chickens are hatched from a sitting of eggs purchased of breeders and received by express, that is all that can be justly expected.

If you buy pure-bred eggs from a reliable poultryman, says G. O. Brown, do not trust the whole setting to one hen, for she may prove a "queer" and cause a total loss of the valuable eggs. It is safe to divide the eggs among two hens.

Joe Bailey, Chesilhurst, N. J., writes that he has a pen of White Wyandottes (8 pullets and 2 year-old hens) that laid 175 eggs during February. The

highest number laid in one day was 9; the lowest, 5; and the average, 6 1-4 eggs daily for the flock.

*Rural New-Yorker* says that during the last fiscal year Uncle Sam did something of a foreign trade in eggs. He exported 33,057,720 eggs. Cuba was his best customer, for that Island took 60 per cent of the whole, with Canada next. That represented but a small part of Uncle Sam's hen fruit—it merely shows what ought to be done for the American hen.

The *Canadian Farmer* says that Mr. John McMillan, M. P., has introduced a bill at Ottawa to provide that eggs shall be sold by weight. The bill is aimed to regulate the trade in eggs chiefly between Canada and Great Britain. The bill will provide that a dozen eggs shall be taken to weigh a pound and a half, but is intended not to interfere with the local sale of eggs in Canada.

A. DeR. Meares, Hyattsville, Md., writes: "I have 24 Barred Rocks, and use trap nests, one being the Cuckoo and the others my own make. In January No. 8 laid 24 eggs, so I beat all of your sixty-five. Nos. 12 and 15 laid 22 eggs each; No. 7, 21; No. 19, 19. Every hen laid, only three laying less than 8 eggs each. The 24 laid 225; in February 279, and so far in March (to 22d) 321. No. 8 laid 70 from December 10th to March 22d."

A man who can furnish eggs of a uniform size and color, and is willing to take care that none but fresh ones are sent, says *Rural New-Yorker*, certainly deserves a better price than one who puts in every new nest he finds, that the hen has been sitting on for a week, and mixes in an occasional nest egg of unknown age. There are grocers and hotel keepers who are willing to pay 3 or 4 cents extra per dozen for eggs that they are certain are fresh. If these producers and consumers can be brought together, the results will usually be satisfactory all around. The difficulty with selling to one hotel keeper or grocer in the city is that in summer many people are away and trade is dull. Just at this time, however, the hens often do their best laying.

F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine, writes: "I read your individual report for the month of January with a great deal of interest. I note that out of 588 eggs laid during the month, 108, or a little over 18 per cent were laid outside the trap nests, and that the conclusion is drawn that an accurate record is impossible. While over-fat hens and pullets will occasionally lay outside the nests, it seems to me that the percentage in this case is very high. I append a record of my pen No. 1 for six months, beginning with December, 1898:

"Mixed flock, mostly common hens. In December 7 hens laid 52 eggs; January, 15 hens, 111 eggs; February, 27 hens, 192 eggs; March, 40 hens, 465 eggs; April, 40 hens, 548 eggs; May, 38 hens, 524 eggs. Making a total of 1368 eggs found in traps in five months, and none outside, or 1892 eggs laid in six months, and all but

36 found in trap nests. These outside eggs were all laid in the month of May, when I was making changes in this pen, which would clearly account for the eggs not laid in the nests. I do not boast of this record; in fact I never thought it remarkable until I read your report in January and your conclusions thereon." We admit that the percentage of eggs laid outside of the nests is unusually high, but our correspondent must not forget that we are experimenting with all classes of conditions. In our runs we have fat hens and lean ones, early hatched pullets and late hatched ones. The bulk of the trouble was in the pens in which pullets were quartered. Pens No. 0 and 4 are composed of old hens and in these two there were practically none. Is it not a fact that the average flocks of poultry kept by farmers and others are in about this mixed condition as we have our experimental pens? Even Mr. Wellcome's report shows eggs found outside of the traps, and the question comes: Which hens laid them? It is a query that cannot be answered. Mr. Silberstein says we can judge by comparison, but we are taking no risks, we want to be sure. Still with all that, the trap nests are valuable. Even if they do not guarantee the actual number of eggs each hen laid in the year, they do tell us which are the best layers, and that is the main object. We find, however, that in the case of hens, the report is more accurate than when the records of pullets are kept.

#### About Broilers and Roasters.

*The Wyandottes Virtues—Squab Broilers—Facts Concerning Broilers and Roasters—The Rhode Island Reds—The Market Business—Live Poultry Traffic.*

Roasters are shipped at from four to six months old.

Squab broilers weigh about three-fourths of a pound each.

The majority of markets prefer yellow-skinned carcasses.

Generally speaking, the broiler season ends in September.

The demand is not only for more poultry but for better poultry.

The capon market runs from about December 1 to June 15.

The bulk of the meat of a fowl is placed on the breast and thighs.

Select such breeds as best fill the requirements of the market.

It is important to have a breed that grows rapidly and fleshes up young.

The weight of roasters varies from 2 1/2 to 8 pounds, according to the season.

Squab broilers are in demand during January, February, and the first half of March.

Market poultrymen do not breed from stock that are flat in breast and scant in thighs.

Small bone, short legs and well rounded form are good points desirable in a market fowl.

Broilers should be well fatted, picked cleanly without tearing the skin, and with no pin feathers showing.

The early roaster markets call for light weight birds, the weight gradually increasing until late fall and early winter.

Chicks that grow their feathers slowly are harder and grow faster than those that exhaust their strength by feathering out early.

While the color of the skin is sometimes very important, it is a fact at least half of the fowls sent to market have anything but yellow skin.

Caponized cockerels may be sold either as roasters or they may be dressed with the feathers left on the neck, wings, tail and thigh and sold as capons.

Broilers weighing from 1 to 1 1/2 pounds sell readily from January to midsummer, after which time they are taken up to 2 pounds in weight.

The roaster market opens in February or March, and prices reach the highest point in May or June, after which they gradually decline, reaching the lowest point in fall.

Rhode Island Reds have been bred by the farmers of the famous Rhode Island poultry district, for at least 20 years. They are a solid, meaty fowl with short thighs, long breastbone, deep yellow skin and light pin feathers.

Squab broilers are not runts and culls, says *Feather*, but young thrifty chicks representing the most tender and delicate form of chicken flesh. These small broilers should be better known, and there is unquestionably a great future for them.

*Farm and Home* says there is much said about the necessity of specializing in the poultry business, but the fact remains that nearly all the successful poultrymen are uniting the egg and market poultry branches. The necessity for keeping up the plant the year around and employing all the time and facilities seems to make it necessary to raise broilers and market chickens as well as layers. Besides, the broiler men who depend upon others to furnish satisfactory eggs for hatching are likely to be disappointed.

The live poultry traffic has reached unusual importance as the receipts last year were 2,075 carloads, and there is a prospect of large increase, says Rochester *Daily Democrat*. They come from a dozen States, some far distant, and this shows how extended the culture of poultry has become. There must be money in it or it would not increase in this rapid manner. One peculiar feature is the Cuban demand, which is now chiefly supplied by the Southern States. The Cubans indulge in this luxury to such an extent that it has become a profitable traffic.

The *American Stock-Keeper* says it may seem to some people a very easy task to breed and raise fowls for the food market, without special adaption or previous experience or knowledge of the business. Now this is a mistake. Although the breeding of the market fowl does not require great skill or an eye to detect the least fault in the make-up of a male or female for the breeding pen, or for a customer, never-

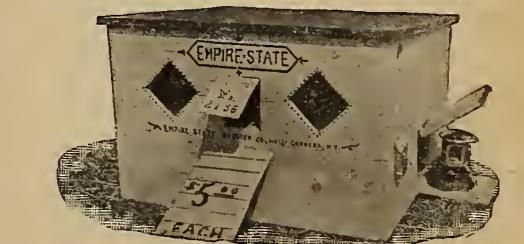
theless, breeding for market necessitates the qualities of economy, industry, good management, and thorough business qualities in that particular branch, which are as valuable and essential to him as that of expert judging or skillful mating is to the real fancier.

The *Reliable Poultry Journal* says the White Wyandotte is a good sized blocky bird, especially well furnished with meat in the breast—just where it is required for table purposes. Being a small-boned fowl, their weight is in the meat, as compared with fowls of heavier frame. For broilers and roasters they lead, as they are hardy, chicks grow fast, and they stand forcing well. In this particular they gain a point on the Plymouth Rocks, which are very liable to leg weakness during forcing. Until the chicks weigh about a pound or a pound and a half, they grow very few feathers, their gain being in their plump bodies.

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## Geese for Profit.

Valuable Pointers Taken From the 1897 Report of the Rhode Island Experiment Station.

## KILLING AND PICKING.

Green goslings are never drawn for market.

In picking mongrel geese, the tail feathers should be left on the bird.

Professional pickers usually receive 10 cents each for picking green geese.

Young geese should be well fed the night before they are to be killed for market.

Care should be taken not to tear the flesh, as the skin of some goslings is very tender.

Some fatteners feed freely of some sweet green food, like oats or sweet corn, about 2 or 3 hours before killing.

Appearance has much to do with the selling value of geese, as well as of any product put upon the market.

The feathers from 45 green geese, dressed August 29th, weighed 12 3/4 pounds after steaming and drying.

Expert pickers can dress from 20 to 30 birds in a day, depending, of course, upon whether they are hard or easy to pick.

When large numbers of green goslings are dressed, the feathers form no inconsiderable part of the income from fattening.

Removing the pin feathers one by one is, of course, a slow process, but it has to be done that the birds may present a good appearance.

In picking, only the salable feathers are put into the box, the wing and tail feathers and soft pin feathers being thrown upon the floor.

Before packing, the goslings should be removed from the barrels of ice water and laid upon boards or benches to allow the water to drain from them.

The feathers from a mature gosling will weigh about one-fourth to one-third of a pound, but green goslings, if quite young, do not yield as many feathers. The room to be used for dressing geese should be provided with a box to receive the feathers, at which two pickers can conveniently sit, one on each side.

For killing, a stout knife with a double-edged blade about 4 inches long, tapering to a point something the shape of a dagger blade is commonly used.

A common shoe-knife is most convenient for removing pin feathers, and should be kept very sharp, as a razor edge is necessary to do quick and satisfactory work.

Birds with dark feathers, particularly of Brown China, and sometimes of African blood, pick harder and tear more easily than Embden or other white-feathered varieties.

The feathers should be picked from the lower third of the neck, leaving about two-thirds of the length of the neck next to the head unpicked. The wing feathers beyond the first joint are also left.

The wings are pressed slightly toward the back in tying, and their natural elasticity forces the breast meat and fat upwards so that the bird looks

plump, if well dressed and the cord is tight.

Goslings are shipped to market by packing in boxes or barrels with broken ice. The quantity of ice used depends upon the temperature of weather at the time and the distance to which they have to be shipped.

In warm weather, when green goslings are usually dressed, they are kept in barrels of ice and water until sent to market. The birds should be freshly packed in ice and clean water as soon as the bodily heat is thoroughly taken out of them.

Sugar barrels are often used for shipping. One or two holes should be bored in the bottom to allow surplus water to drain away. A good layer of ice should be used at the top of the barrel, which can then be covered with two or three thicknesses of burlap.

Scalding is seldom practiced where birds are to be shipped and kept for some time before being sold; but where birds are slaughtered for immediate sale in a nearby market, the picking is made very easy by scalding. The feathers, however, are of no value.

In packing, the head of the gosling is placed against the side of the bird, which is then packed back downward on a layer of cracked ice in the box or barrel. After enough have been packed to make a layer, cracked ice is put in and another layer placed upon them until the package is full.

The shrinkage in dressing goslings is comparatively small, as only the blood and feathers are lost. It occasionally happens that a specimen will absorb sufficient ice water so that the dressed weight will equal the live weight of the bird. As a rule, however, the shrinkage is about 5 per cent. of the live weight.

The feathers should be spread in some clean, dry, airy place to cure. If placed upon the floor of a loft they should be turned over with a fork every few days until thoroughly dried. If put in bags and well steamed they are more valuable, as the steam in a measure purifies them and removes somewhat of the oily odor which they otherwise have.

When many pin feathers are found on the birds, they have to be removed with a sharp knife. White pin feath-

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KEYSTONE GRANITE GRIT WORKS, Perkiomenville, Pa., U. S. A.

ers can be shaved off, as the part remaining in the skin will not show, but black pin feathers must be removed entirely. The operator takes the skin of the bird between the fingers of the left hand and makes a slight longitudinal cut in the skin on the side of the pin feather, when it can be easily removed.

As soon as the bird is picked the blood is rinsed from the head and mouth, the bird is placed upon its back, and a string tied tightly around the middle of the body, pressing the wings firmly against the sides. Fairly stout, white cotton twine is generally used for this purpose, but mongrel geese, for the Christmas trade are sometimes tied with a narrow colored tape, or braid, which adds somewhat to the appearance of birds designed for a fancy trade.

Some fatteners break down the breast bone before tying. To do this the bird is laid on its back on a solid bench, the breast is covered with several thicknesses of damp cloth, and two or three blows on the breast-bone given with a wooden paddle made from a piece of smooth oak board, about an inch thick and perhaps six inches wide. Just enough force should be used to crush down the rib bones, so as to settle the breast bone down somewhat, the object being to give the breast a plump, meaty appearance. After the wings are closely tied against the body, and the blood has been rinsed from the head, the bird is immersed in ice water, barrels usually being provided for this purpose.

Practically, all the geese sold in Boston and New York markets are dry picked, but for some markets scalding is practiced. In that case the birds are dipped quickly into hot water, sometimes alternating the dipping with cold water, and the birds while moist with the hot water are wrapped tightly for a few moments in cloth. The operation must be carefully done, so that the heat will loosen the feathers and yet not scald the skin so that it will break in picking. Experience is required to perform the operation successfully.

Where birds are scalded all the feathers are removed, including those on the neck and wings left on when the bird is dry picked. This allows the housewife to use the whole neck and wings in cooking, so that the shrinkage in drawing would be a little less from this method of picking than from dry picking.

The bird to be killed is taken by the operator and held between his knees, the head resting in the left hand; a firm cross cut is then made in the upper and back part of the mouth, severing the main arteries of the head. The bird is then taken by the legs, and a quick, sharp blow on the head with a flat paddle, made from some hard wood, stuns the bird. Picking begins immediately. The operator sits in a chair beside the box, with the bird back down across his knees, the head being firmly held between the knee and the side of the box. The feathers are first removed from the under part of the bird, beginning at

the abdomen and working toward the breast. All the feathers should be removed as the work progresses, excepting possibly a few pin feathers, which will have to be taken out later with a knife. The down can be best removed by wetting the hand and passing it quickly over the skin of the bird.

### Pointers on Food and Feeding.

*Clover Heads—Linseed Meal—Mash at Noon—Cottonseed Meal—Ground Green Bone—A "Tonic"—Millet Seed—Corn as a Poultry Food.*

We do not favor hot mashes.

Oil cake meal is linseed meal.

Bulk in food is required for health.

Ten hens should have about three pints of water per day.

Linseed meal is the product of the linseed oil factories.

Cottonseed meal is inferior to oil cake meal as a poultry food.

Pigs liver is a cheap and handy form of fresh meat for poultry.

The noon day meal should be largely composed of vegetable matter.

Rich and concentrated food is not readily digested and invites disease.

A hen can be fed almost anything that a cow will eat, and many things besides.

Linseed meal is very fattening, and therefore must not be fed too strongly.

Linseed meal should be mixed with the ground grain ration in the proportion of about 20 to 1.

An occasional feed of boiled oats is a grand treat for the poultry. We mix them up with dry bran.

A few charred ears of corn thrown to the hens once a week are a benefit in point of charcoal and exercise.

A varied diet is essential to provide proper nourishment and to aid digestion in fowls the same as human beings.

### THE WEBSTER & HANNUM is the only Bone Cutter



which cuts bone fine enough for young chickens. It is self-feeding, self-regulating, runs with half the power required by any other, and never clogs. It cuts meat, gristle, vegetables and cracks corn.

Highest award at the World's Fair, Chicago, and at the National Export Exposition at Philadelphia.

Stearns' Clover Cutters and Grit Crushers should form part of every poultry man's outfit.

**FREE** A scientific and practical work on feeding poultry, and catalogue of our goods.  
F. C. STEARNS & COMPANY, Box 6, Syracuse, N. Y.

### PUTNEY'S WYANDOTTES, WHITE EXCLUSIVELY.

Bred on practical lines. Standard points and egg record combined. We mate, feed and care for our stock to secure heavy layers and improved meat quality. Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$4.00 per 50; \$6.00 per 100. A. F. PUTNEY, 44 Pleasant St., South Natick, Mass.

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.** Pedigreed from leading strains. Vigorous, stocky birds, early maturing, heavy layers, having yellow beaks and legs, grand shape and barred under color. Both breeds lay a fine colored brown egg. Rock eggs, \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. White Wyandotte eggs \$1.50 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed.

E. W. HARRIS, North Acton, Mass.

Some poultrymen believe that a craving for bulky food is one of the causes of feather eating in winter among confined poultry.

Clover cured only enough to preserve is excellent, and fowls will eat a portion of it all winter when they would turn away from cabbage.

Linseed meal promotes general health and keeps the fowls in proper condition, which means more eggs and better results generally.

G. O. Brown says: Don't forget that a single diet of corn is very fattening, and is sure in the end to result in the same troubles an enforced single diet of anything else will surely bring.

Puritan Poultry Farm, Stamford, Conn., in *American Poultry Journal*, says: Besides proper food, housing and care, the best "tonic" we know of is to allow the fowls to go to roost once in a while with only half a supper. Do not be afraid to try this plan. It is the greatest preventative of birds "going off their feed" that we know of.

P. H. Jacobs says a quart of millet seed to 20 hens in the morning, scattered far and wide so as to make them work, with nothing at noon, and just as much as they will eat up at night, with a variety of other food, is an excellent plan of feeding. To know how much they will eat let them fill up until the last hen walks away satisfied.

### HARTMAN STEEL ROD PICKET FENCE



fills completely all fence requisites as to beauty, utility and durability. Specially designed for lawns, parks, cemeteries, school grounds, &c. Looks best and is best when built with our steel posts. Illustrated catalog free.

**HARTMAN M'FG CO., BOX 87 ELLWOOD CITY, PA.**

Or Room 47, 809 Broadway, New York City.

### Mr. Boyer says Kulp

and his stock is all right. The finest of layers and feathers. Can prove it. Barred and White Rocks (Thompson & Bradley), White Wyandottes (Duston), S. and Rose Comb Brown Leghorns (Kulp's), second to none, White Leghorns, Bl. Minorcas, Bl. Langshans, Big Pekin Ducks, Belgian Hares, Circular. W. W. KULP, Box 70, Pottstown, Pa.

**POULTRY SUPPLIES**

Sprague's Lice and Insect Killer, per gal. \$ .75  
Mica Crystal Grit, - - - Per 100 lbs. .75  
Crushed Oyster Shell, Per 100 lb. bag, .75  
Ground Bone, - - - Per 100 lb. bag, 2.00  
We make lower prices for large quantities  
Send for Descriptive Circulars.

SHIP US  
YOUR... **POULTRY AND EGGS**  
SPRAGUE COMMISSION CO.,  
218 South Water St. Chicago, Ill.

### Business White Wyandottes.

Eggs for hatching from strong, vigorous stock. Heavy laying strain. Price \$1 to \$1.50 per 15. Wyandotte stock for sale; send for score and price. **S. C. W. LEGHORNS.** Wyekoff's great laying strain. Eggs for hatching. Price \$1 to \$1.50 per 15. White Wyandotte incubator eggs \$5 per hundred. All stock scored by Anglemyer, judge. Get my circular before ordering; it will interest you.

C. E. MISNER, Box B, Calla, Ohio.

**CAPON** Care and Culture. Instruction Book Free. Send stamp to Allerton Caponizer Mfg. Co., Allerton, Iowa.

O. E. Skinner, in *American Poultry Journal*, says: "I have changed the method of feeding during the past season and find it very satisfactory. I feed a half feed of grain early in the morning, in litter; a full feed of warm mash at noon and then a half feed of grain at night, in litter. You ought to see how healthy and thrifty they look."

The Baltimore Sun says the shattered heads of clover from the hay mows are one of the most valuable of foods for egg production in winter. Pour boiling water on the clover heads, cover them over with a bag, and let them steam and soak until the mess has cooled down to about blood heat, then drain off the water and use a pint of wheat bran with each two quarts of clover heads. Mix through thoroughly and feed while warm. Noon is the best time to give this food. The hens find considerable picking among the hay mow sweepings and seem to greatly enjoy scratching among them.

Texas Farm and Ranch says: "Poultry writers inveigh too much against corn as a poultry food. There is no single grain that can take its place. All corn, of course, is not so good as a variety, but half corn and half 'variety' is unobjectionable, and the proportion of corn may be increased beyond that ratio without anything resembling disaster. When fattening for market, corn is not only the best but the cheapest food known. The universal preference of chickens for corn, whole or in any possible state of comminution, should be regarded. Birds and animals rarely make mistakes as to the value of food stuffs."

Cottonseed meal is no substitute for meat; neither is linseed meal, says P. H. Jacobs, in *American Gardening*. Why? Because meat contains none of the fattening elements—carbonaceous—which is not the case with the two vegetable substances. To procure the necessary nitrogen from cottonseed the hen would, while appropriating the nitrogen, also consume a large proportion of carbon, or fat. But cottonseed meal is excellent, however, and may be fed to chicks or fowls. Add a gill of cottonseed meal to the food of 100 small chicks, once a day, and the same quantity to the food of six hens. If linseed meal be substituted twice a week it will be an advantage. No food will take the place of fresh lean meat."

Texas Farm and Ranch says: "Ground green bones are much lauded as a good chicken feed, and so they are. So, also, are pork and beef sausage, mince meat or blood meal. But green cut bone is not available to one poultry keeper in a hundred. Shall the ninety and nine go without fowls or eggs in consequence? Fifteen dozen times No (with a capital N). If one cannot for any reason supply his fowls with green cut bone, let him continue to feed such stuff as he has—corn, oats, bran, seeds of any of the sorghums, or grasses, and consult the hens as well as the poultry journals on matters of chicken diet." Notwithstanding the above sarcasm on green cut bone, it is one of the most valuable additions to

poultry diet, and one of the best forms of feeding meat. We should say that if green bone is not available, feed meat two or three times a week in some form. Bowker's Animal Meal, by the way, is an excellent substitute.

### Artificial Hatching and Brooding.

*A Batch of Items, Old to Experts, but Invaluable to Those Who are Just Beginning.*

Overheating is injurious.

Chicken-hearted—the incubator.

Turning eggs prevents the blood vessels growing fast to the shell.

Turning eggs is essential to prevent the contents of the egg settling.

When chicks form near the small end of the egg they are apt to die in the shell. Always fill the incubator with eggs; a half-full machine never does as good work.

Eggs kept for hatching should not be kept in a higher temperature than 60 degrees.

A thorough airing and a change of temperature once a day seems to be good for the hatching.

Large and small eggs placed in the same incubator do not give the satisfaction that all of one size do.

Eggs kept in a very warm place will soon start enough to spoil them when placed in the incubator.

The correct position for eggs during incubation is on their sides with the large end slightly higher.

It is possible to make a good hatch without testing the eggs, but such cases are rare and accidental.

The chicken is hatched with its eyes open, and the first thing it does is to peep.—*Philadelphia Bulletin*.

Sixty degrees will neither start nor chill the germs in the eggs, and will keep them good longer than any other temperature.

On account of a better regulation of the temperature, if for no other reason, the bad eggs in the incubator should be tested out.

The embryo chick may not be killed by overheating, but the vitality of the blood is so impaired that the chicks recover very slowly, if at all.

**ROSE** and Single Comb White Leghorns, Single Comb Brown Leghorns. Eggs 75 cents per 15. Mr. and Mrs. S. RIDER, Maryland, N. Y.

**EGGS** that hatch, from White Wyandottes order today. 15 eggs for \$1; 45 for \$2, 100 for \$3.50. **ROUND TOP POULTRY YARDS**, Cairo, N. Y.

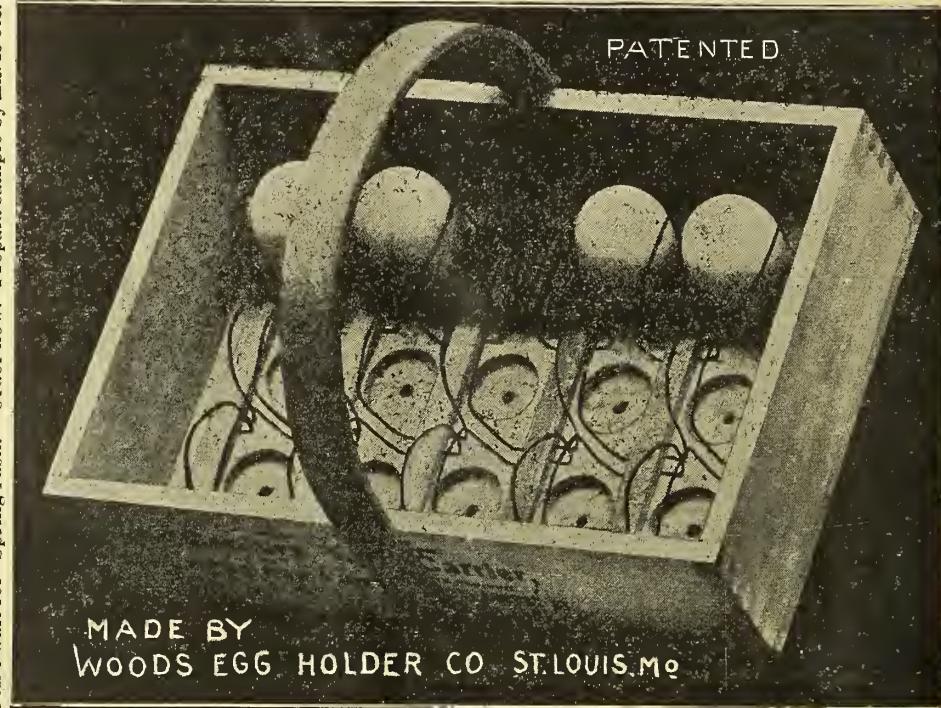
**WELL** selected of heavy laying strain Barred Plymouth Rocks, Buff Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, S. C. White Leghorns, Buff Cochin Bantams. Free circular explains all. E LAWRENCE, Athens, N. Y.

### GOLDEN AND SILVER WYANDOTTES.

Stock and eggs. Some extra nice Golden cockerels. Breeder 15 yrs. F. S. Tenney, Box F. Peterboro, N. H.

### "Fancier's Favorite" Package.

CATALOGUE FREE if you mention where you saw this ad. Don't wait for "Spring rush." Order now. Prepaid sample by Ex. 25 cts.



## Let The Hens Lay



but Hatch Chickens by Steam  
The best, surest and most economical method  
of hatching is with the

### EXCELSIOR Incubator

Simple, yet thoroughly durable; absolutely regulates itself. Hatches the greatest proportion of fertile eggs at the least expense. Costs less than any other first-class hatching machine.

The **Wooden Hen**—for 50 eggs—is the most perfectly automatic, self-regulating small incubator ever made. Write for incubator book and information—free.

**CEO. H. STAHL,**  
114-122 S. 6th St.,  
Quincy, Ill.



The effect of overheating on the embryo chicks, is that it destroys the red corpuscles of the blood. The higher the heat the whiter the blood becomes. Do not place the incubator in a damp cellar or a room where there will be much jar, and try to protect it from sudden and severe changes of weather. A thorough painting of all the parts of a brooder with gasoline will do up the lice; the gasoline soon evaporates, leaving the brooder nice and clean.

Incubator chicks do not have lice and will not catch them as long as they are not exposed to them by being brooded by lousy hens or in lousy brooders.

About the greatest obstacle to success with the incubator is that there are so many people not quite willing to take the trouble to do as well as they know, or as well as they may know.

Incubators have been greatly improved and cheapened within the past two or three years, and the management of a good one is well within the power of persons of ordinary intelligence.

Keep eyes and nose open for spoiled eggs. It is an easy matter to detect them by the sense of smell while they are being turned. All eggs having a bad smell should be removed as soon as noticed.

An experienced writer truly remarks that one trouble encountered by beginners with incubators is that they have never given their poultry attention and they likewise neglect the incubator.

Iowa Homestead says: An egg containing a live germ surrounded by a lot of eggs containing dead ones, is in no condition to get the proper heat, and will have to be a very vigorous germ if it hatches at all.

A small egg has much more shell surface in proportion to contents than a large one, so that to run the machine to suit the small ones will be too damp for the large ones, where moisture is used, and *vice-versa*.

The chicks when hatched need a warm, dry and sunny room to make a healthy growth. No amount of heat compensates for a lack of sunshine with either chickens, animals or plants, and we all know how pale and sickly plant growth is when it has no sunshine.

Iowa Homestead says the incubator is no longer looked upon as a curiosity by people who keep poultry, and we believe it has come to stay. It is a necessity on every farm where 50 or more hens are kept. Not only has it gained favor with fanciers, but farmers are taking to it kindly and the inquiry about it is greater than it has been for years.

Don't forget in starting the incubator to clean out the heat or flue pipe into which the lamp chimney extends, to put in a brand new wick, to clean all the parts of the lamp thoroughly, having the burners as near as possible as bright as when they are new. Use good sewing machine oil on all the bearing parts of the machine, after first carefully removing all dust and dirt.

Texas Farm and Ranch says: "The chief advantages of artificial incuba-

tors are that they are always ready for business which is not the case with hens, and they can hatch as many chicks as 10 to 20 hens in the same number of days. Good mother hens will hatch a larger per cent. of eggs than the incubator. But this matter is disputed by incubator makers and affirmed by most others."

The incubator is always ready to sit, and will incubate when the old hen is on a strike, says Wisconsin Farmer. It will hatch early chicks when the weather is cold, and it will hatch early chicks just as well as late ones. The chicks are just as strong and prolific as those hatched under hens. There seems to be prevailing an idea that incubator chicks are different from those hatched by a hen, in conformation, habits and hardiness, which is all a mistake. These things are influenced alone by the parent stock.

Do not blame too much of your incubator failures on the machine, says Baltimore Sun. Fertile eggs depend on a healthy, well-kept and properly-fed flock. Hens that have had roup and been apparently cured will be a very poor dependence on fertile eggs. Incubation will often commence with eggs laid by such hens, continued for a period satisfactorily and then suddenly stop. The incubator in such cases is condemned, when it is lack of sufficient vitality in eggs. The same trouble is quite sure to occur with eggs from unduly fat hens. A male bird heading the breeding yard can be too fat also. The aim should always be to keep the breeding stock in active, healthy condition.

M. M. Johnson, a Nebraska expert, says: "Close confinement invites a dormant condition, or, in other words, exercising the embryo chick causes it to move, stretch and develop its own strength. A movement of the egg makes a corresponding movement of the chick. A breath of fresh air on the egg has the same effect. I find by experience that if the temperature is right and the eggs are handled enough they will hatch, and it matters but little whether they are in a basket, box or an incubator, if the temperature has been right and the eggs exercised. The time has come when we realize that airing the eggs does them

good, but very few have any idea or have an explanation to offer why it is so. The reason is plain and easy. The change of conditions, or rather the fresh air, causes the chick to wake up, but this is not all there is to it, the temperature of the hen's body expands the shell. When she leaves the nest the cool air contracts it. Through the alternate expansions and contractions the fibres of the shell are weakened, or in other words, the shell has become brittle through the action of expansion and contraction, and when the chick is due to hatch it has the strength to make the effort, and the shell is in condition to make it possible for the chick to break out."

**WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS \$1.50 per setting of 15.** (Duston stock). 14 good White Wyandotte cockerels \$2.00 each. B. P. MULLIVY, Ferndale Ave. and Newburg Road, Louisville, Ky.

### Single Comb Brown Leghorns

W. and B. P. Rocks and Pekin Ducks. Eggs \$1.00 per setting. V. GEIGER, Geiger's Mills, Pa.

**90 varieties choice Poultry, Eggs, Pigeons, Hares, Eggs 75c. to \$2.00 per 15, according to variety.** Our natural colored descriptive 60-page book to above mailed for 10 cents. J. A. BERGEY, Telford, Pa.

### S. C. Brown Leghorns.

Large, vigorous birds; great layers. Winners at Pittsburg, '98, Meadville, '00, six cockerels. Eggs \$1 per 15. Write wants. Zundell Bros., Grapeville, Pa.

### Chicken Catcher.

Best thing out to catch fowls without excitement or injury. Get one and be up to date. Price \$1.00. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

### Twenty EGGS FOR \$1.00.

Thoroughbred Light Brahmas, Pine Rock Poultry Ranch, Clinton Hollow, N. Y. N. A. TAYLOR, Prop.

**BEEF SCRAPS**, Ground Bone, Millet, Broken Rice, Buckwheat Feed, Grit, Shells, Charcoal, Sunflower Seed, Wheat, Barley, Rice, Meal and Buckwheat Feed. C. H. REEVE, 119 West St., New York.

### Utility White Wyandottes

Eggs from special mating \$2.00 per 15.

#### ROBERT ATKINS,

26 West 15th Street, New York City.  
Plant at Esopus, N. Y.

### Parsons' Pills

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.

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Send us your orders now, before the advance. OUR Nettings are made from first quality wire, and galvanized after it is woven. All rolls 150 feet long.

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3 inch mesh	\$ 60	\$ 78	\$1.10	\$1.38	\$1.60	\$1.88	\$2.10	\$2.40	\$2.60	\$3.10
2 inch mesh	78	1.12	1.55	1.90	2.28	2.62	3.00	3.40	3.72	4.25
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Above prices are f. o. b. cars at Colchester, New York, or Chicago. We have low freight rates to all points. Send a list of your wants, and get our prices at your railroad station. Our free illustrated circulars give lowest prices of all sizes of mesh and wire. Send for samples. Write today.

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NEW ENGLAND AGENT FOR M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING.

## Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

Never depend upon luck.  
Always know your business.  
Do not begin too expensively.  
A neglected flock will never be a profitable one.  
Keep strict accounts and records and study them.  
Have application, patience, persistence, and be a hustler.  
Cleanliness in the poultry house is in order at all seasons.  
Many growers in the East estimate poultry manure as worth half the cost of the food.  
Don't forget that cleanliness is as much a factor as food in successful poultry raising.  
Breeding stock should be mated at least two weeks before beginning to save eggs for hatching.  
Expensive or fancy buildings are not a necessity, but convenience of labor and proper conditions are.  
Make your plant cost as little as possible but do not sacrifice convenience or proper conditions under any circumstances.  
J. A. Tillinghast says: Remember every dollar you put into the business is an interest-bearing factor and must be accounted for out of your profits.  
Texas Farm and Ranch says when an inexperienced enthusiast goes into poultry farming with anywhere from 500 hens up, it is proof that the fools are not all dead.  
Study your markets, the particular likes and dislikes of your customers. Learn to fill every want, and just as they wish it, and never know more than your customers.  
Above all look after the details, for no department of the farm needs such close attention to the many little details or will suffer so quickly for lack of attention as this.  
Mr. Tillinghast says: A good system of accounts is the surest guide you can have to success in any business, and you will find farming to be no exception, though comparatively few farmers keep them.  
Don't forget that the careful observance of all the little details in poultry raising is what brings in the end the big returns. Every neglect is a cog removed from the perfect wheel of success in poultry raising.  
J. A. Tillinghast, in his lecture before the Rhode Island poultry school, says the beginner must be on the alert for every new idea in your business, but do not be greedy and attempt to swallow more than you can digest.  
Don't forget to renew the litter in the scratching sheds. After the litter has become damp and much befouled unless it is removed and a fresh lot put in its place the scratching shed may become a source for starting troublesome ailments.  
A cold, damp, draughty house is the most expensive kind, for the conditions at night require all the food the fowls have had during the day to sustain their vitality. Under such

conditions nothing can be stored up for the development of various fatal diseases with poultry.

There is something about unsifted coal ashes that is very engaging to a flock of hens. They take apparent delight in picking over fresh coal ashes. The ashes will not bleach nor make their legs sore like unleached wood ashes do. Coal ashes are good to make paths in the poultry yards also. The American Agriculturist says the poultry business has not been given sufficient publicity in comparison to its importance; but there is no one so much to blame for this fact as the farmer. The magnitude of the poultry industry is not as thoroughly appreciated by our people as it should be. The value of poultry products is simply immense.

Michael K. Boyer, probably the best known practical poultry raiser, and editor of one of two most practical poultry journals in the country, speaks approvingly of the other practical poultry papers and for so doing is denounced by some of the "standard" poultry journals. Many poultry editors seem to think that any publication in the interest of farm poultry is unconstitutional, heterodox, and contrary to their interests.—Texas Farm and Ranch.

As a "ways and means committee" the women poultry raisers make the men dwindle down into insignificance. Women succeed in poultry raising under adverse circumstances that would cause men to give up the calling with disgust. The main causes of this is that women are naturally more tender hearted and look more carefully at the little comfort details that chicks require. There is many a poultry fancier who has won considerable fame at the poultry shows on the earnest efforts of an industrious (and in every sense) better-half. Whether there is a division of the prize winnings or not in such instances would be interesting to know.

You can advertise and find a man competent to do almost anything you want

done, says Wallace's Farmer, except to take charge of a poultry plant. You can by the above means find a man willing to do this, but the man who is ready to take the job will not, in one case out of fifty, be able to give proof of his competency by conducting the plant in a manner which will make it yield a respectable profit to the owner. The men who have the necessary training for conducting a poultry plant successfully are not standing around waiting for somebody to offer them a job. They have a business of their own and are not hiring out to other people. If you want to engage in poultry farming you must calculate on doing the work yourself. The man whom you can hire to run the establishment will not be worth half the wages which you will have to pay him.

Wh. Wyandottes and B. P. Rocks. Brown egg strain. Eggs 15 for \$1.00. F. G. Brookins, Richville, Vt.

**HARWOOD'S** Buff Wyan., Blue Wyan., Blue Andal. DR. HARWOOD, Chasm Falls, N. Y.

**Incubator Eggs** \$3 per 100, from large, vigorous White Wyandottes. Eggs from fancy matings \$1 per 13. W. G. HALE, Nortonhill, N. Y.

**White Wyandottes.** Eggs \$1 per 15. Thoroughbred birds that keep the egg basket full all winter. E. K. BLAKE, Nicholville, N. Y.

**GOLDEN WYANDOTTES.** 10 hens and cockerel; fine stock, for sale at a bargain. J. L. O'DONNELL, Box 717, Hammonton, N. J.

**SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS.** Winter layers. Standard bred, best heavy-laying strains. Vigorous breeding stock. Money makers. Eggs \$1.00 per 13; \$2.00 per 30; \$5.00 per 100. E. J. TEMPLE, Hinsdale, N. H.

**A FEW** W. P. ROCK Cockerels left. Eggs from fine, vigorous, healthy birds, \$1.50 per set; \$2.50 per 30. Canal Poultry Yards, GERRY B. LAWRENCE, Prop., Box A, Ashby, Mass.

**Do You Want a Trap Nest?**  
If so, you want the **Advance**. It is neat, simple and correct. \$1.25 each. B. P. Rocks and W. Wyan. eggs \$1 sitting. Winfield Darling, So. Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

**HOWLAND'S BUFF WYANDOTTES**  
Large, farm raised cockerels, \$1.50 up. Eggs that hatch, from prize winners, 15, \$1.50; 30, \$2.50. WM. O. HOWLAND, Cambridgeport, Mass.

**Fisher's R. I. REDS**  
At three shows, 1899, I won more premiums than all of my competitors. Eggs \$1.50 per sitting. A. J. FISHER, Milford, N. H.

# EASY and SURE LEE'S LICE KILLER

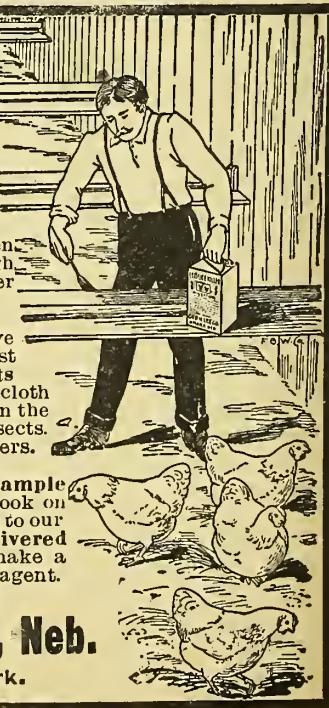
**IT'S EASY** All you have to do to rid your fowls and your premises of lice, mites and vermin of all kinds is to paint the roosts and nest boxes with Lee's Lice Killer. No fuss or muss. No bother or trouble.

**IT'S SURE** Lee's Lice Killer never fails to kill the vermin. They simply can't stay where it is. Thousands of poultry men have used it and testified to its thorough efficiency. Prevents scaly leg and other diseases that poultry is subject to.

**OTHER USES** It is an effective remedy against roaches, ants, bed bugs, and all insects on plants and fruit trees. Strips of cloth saturated with the solution and hung in the branches will keep off the winged insects. Painting the trunks keeps off the crawlers.

**IT'S CHEAP** We send a free sample and a 64-page book on Vermin to any one sending his address to our Omaha office. We make Special Delivered Prices anywhere in the U. S. We make a SPECIAL OFFER where we have no agent. Isn't it worth investigating?

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Or 68 Murray St., New York.



## Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

## BREEDS.

G. M. J.: There is no strain of Single Comb White Wyandottes. Single combs every now and then crop out of all strains.

The general run of White Wyandottes lay a white or slightly tinted egg, but gradually fanciers and breeders are working for brown eggs so as to have all the American class alike in that respect.

C. J. W.: The Single Comb Brown Leghorns will lay the most eggs; the Rose Combs will probably do the best winter laying. The largest egg laid in the Leghorn family are those from the White and Buff varieties.

W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa., is a reliable breeder of Rose Comb Brown Leghorns.

\*\*\*  
MATING.

S. L. N.: No harm results from mating the cockerels and pullets of the same hatch. The danger lies in breeding the pullets with their sire.

\*\*\*  
FOOD AND FEEDING.

H. D.: The cause of your poor egg yield is the absence of green food and meat scraps. Cooked clover hay daily in the mash, and either regular meat scraps or green cut bone added, will soon give you good results.

N. A. T.: Clover meal and green bone are excellent egg producers. The former should go daily in the winter bill of fare, but the green bone should be given but two or three times a week. On days that the green bone is not fed, we use Bowker's Animal Meal, or some good meat scraps.

The white stone you have, if it is hard, and can be broken up into particles not smaller than a grain of wheat, nor larger than a grain of corn, will make just as good grit as any you can buy.

C. H. A.: We do not possess any formulas for making egg producers, egg foods or condition powder.

L. W.: The black color of droppings is caused by some certain food the fowls get. No need for alarm on that score.

Do not feed meat scraps on days you feed green cut bone. You can feed one-twelfth the amount of mash in meat scraps. The scraps are already cooked, so need no further preparation.

You may be getting your fowls too fat, which probably is the cause of the poor egg yield.

C. A. H.: Ducks, like other varieties of poultry, should not be fed more than they will eat up clean. One hour after feeding, remove all food remaining in their troughs.

A. H. S.: The paragraph in the article in Reliable Co. book on Artificial Incubation, by Boyer, is rather mixed. Instead of reading "At noon we scatter one good handful of grain to each fowl," it should read: "to every two fowls in the pen". Your pullets are entirely too fat to lay.

The Standard weight for Wyandotte pullets is but 5 1-2 pounds, and that is fully a half pound more than the breeding pullet should be.

When it can be had, milk is an excellent article of food for broilers or any chicks, but milk is not absolutely necessary. Laying stock should be fed three times a day, but never as much as they will eat up clean. The grain should always be scattered among litter, so that the hens will be compelled to scratch for what they get.

J. L.: The hen that is so overfat that she bags behind, is good for only one thing, and that is to be killed and eaten. In that respect she would be very attractive.

G. M. J.: Liberal feeding, and the regular use of a reliable condition powder, in Fall, has a tendency to hasten molting.

Sulphur, if hot, given on wet or damp days, is invaluable for molting hens. Meat and bone in any form are necessary in the poultry bill of fare. Of cooked meat or ground bone, 10 per cent. is about right; in green cut bone or fresh meat, about an ounce per hen, three times a week, is a safe measurement.

J. G.: The hard, tough shells of your eggs are due to the large amount of

lime you are feeding your stock; nearly every article you mention in your bill of fare (to say nothing about the oyster shells continually before them) is strong in lime.

Mrs. E. Z. M.: Running a hand power bone cutter is pretty hard work for a woman "only fairly strong, not in best of health."

A pound of green cut bone to every 16 head of stock, two or three times a day is about the right proportion.

In speaking of feeding cut clover, we mean clover hay cut up in half-inch size.

F. O. W.: The hen which is continually laying small, yolkless eggs, is out of condition, mainly in overfat about the ovaries. The food given is of a too-fattening nature.

[Continued on page 171.]

STAR  
INCUBATORS

hatch more and stronger chicks or ducks than any other. Besides, they are the very best in construction, in system of heating, regulating and ventilating (NO MOISTURE REQUIRED), in ease of operating, and cost of fuel.

## WRITE TO-DAY FOR PROOF.

STAR INCUBATOR CO.,  
22 Church Street, Bound Brook, N. J.

NEW YORK OFFICE, 68 MURRAY ST.

## Rhode Island Reds

## BEST ALL-ROUND FOWL.

Fine color, good layers, good table fowls. My stock is strong and vigorous. Eggs from prize stock, (Rose or Single Combs), \$1.50 for 15 eggs; \$4 for 50. GEO. V. MILLETTI, Box 117, Ipswich, Mass. Member of R. I. Red Club.

## THE F. P. C. CHICK MANNA

TEN DAYS' FOOD  
For Little  
Chicks when  
first Hatched.  
Tested, proven  
productive of  
QUICK, STRONG,  
HEALTHY GROWTH

## Highly Prized by POULTRY RAISERS.

Send for Descriptive Price List of the  
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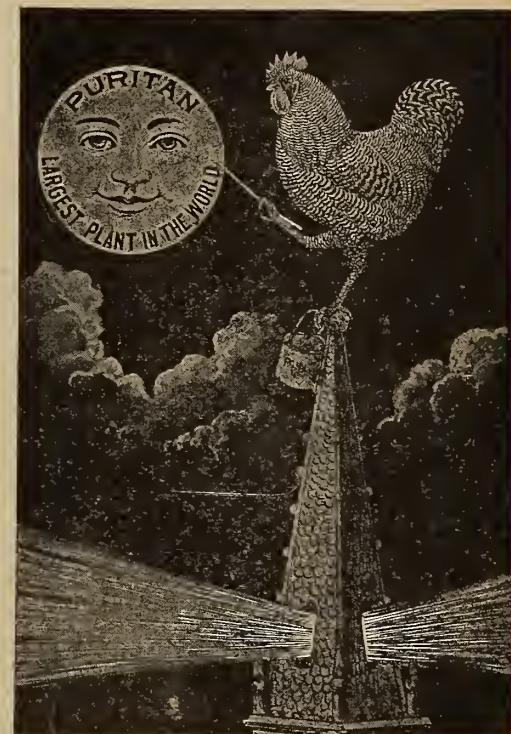
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F. P. CASSEL, Lansdale, Pa.

## WE SELL

Fertile eggs from hardy, prolific Wh. Wyandottes and S. C. W. Leghorns that have been bred and selected for practical purposes, keeping close to Standard as practicable, at \$1 per 15. Low express rates. Prompt shipment. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Middlesex Poultry Farm, Box 7, Plainsboro, N. J.

Our Name is  
Above Everything

in poultry culture on a large scale.

THE PURITAN is the largest and most successful poultry plant in the world, without exception.

Our beautiful catalogue tells how this success was attained; sent for 10 cts. in stamps, PURITAN POULTRY FARMS, Box 357 S Stamford, Conn.

THE FANCIERS'  
REVIEW

is a 16-page monthly Poultry Journal. Subscription price 50 cents a year. It is "popular because practical." It has a live pigeon department, edited by Thos. Wright, formerly of "Farm-Poultry." We would like to have you see a copy. Send 10 cents and get three numbers. Every one who sends us 50 cents for a year's subscription (stamps taken), will receive also, by return mail, free, one of these 25-cent poultry books: "Art of Poultry Breeding," "Uncle Rastus Poultry Book," or "500 Questions and Answers on Poultry."

PRINTING.—See our work before you place your order, Samples free, Address,

THE FANCIERS' REVIEW,  
BOX 3, CHATHAM, N. Y.

# A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY  
**MICHAEL K. BOYER,**

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

**I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,**  
PUBLISHERS.

## ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There is fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL.

**One of the Best.** Chatham, N. Y., is one of those bright publications that lives on its merits. Long before A FEW HENS was thought of, the *Review* was flourishing. It built up a substantial business by attending to its own affairs, and leaving the affairs of others alone.

Darrow, the editor, is a very conservative fellow. He is not given to "gush." He says what he means, and it is right to the point. He has been talking about A FEW HENS—and this is what he said:

"One of the best little papers for the advertiser is A FEW HENS, of Boston. It is spicy and up-to-date and its advertisement does not get lost to sight in it. It isn't always the big papers with big circulation that pay the small advertiser best."

That testimonial is doubly valuable for two reasons:

First, it comes from an editor, publisher and printer.

Second, it comes from a large advertiser, who has given A FEW HENS a thorough trial.

It making up the pages of our paper, we aim to so place the reading matter that the advertisement, no matter how small, may be noticed. The old, stereotyped instructions from advertisers to place their order next to pure reading matter is entirely unnecessary in favoring A FEW HENS, for that is the aim in making up the paper.

There are many reasons why A FEW HENS is one of the best advertising mediums for poultry wares:

First, its contents is of such a nature, and presented in such a style that the paper is preserved for reference.

Second, the matter is especially prepared for beginners—of which we have an army—and they are the best buyers.

Third, both the publishers and the editor being in different lines of poultry work, and heavy advertisers, the names and addresses of thousands of poultry workers are secured, and these are all sampled and worked for subscriptions.

Fourth, our subscription rate is so low, that it does not take much of an inducement to secure business.

The large amount of advertising that A FEW HENS is carrying, the increase of size of the paper, and the annual return

of old advertisers, all go to prove what we have said right along: A FEW HENS is one of the best advertising mediums in the country, and advertisers make a mistake if they do not give its columns a trial.

\*\*\*

**Compliments.** A. DeR. Meares Hyattsville, Md.: "If there be only one paper for every poultryman to read, it is A FEW HENS. I look forward to the coming of my copy with interest, and read it before the first day passes."

Geo. W. Webb, Ilion, N. Y.: "A FEW HENS is 'just the thing.' That's enough said."

F. H. Olmstead, Hot Springs, Ark.: "I like A FEW HENS the best of all my poultry journals."

R. B. Mayes, Yazoo, Miss.: "A FEW HENS is the best poultry paper that I have seen, notwithstanding the difference of latitude."

A. H. Brooks, Galesville, Wis.: "I very much enjoy A FEW HENS."

J. P. Marshall, Woodbury, Conn.: "Your valuable little paper is a daily help."

C. E. Reed, Zelienople, Pa.: "I have been reading A FEW HENS for some time, and like the paper very much."

Rev. James Lisk, Bordentown, N. J.: "I like A FEW HENS exceedingly, and enjoy it greatly."

Geo. E. Johnson, North Tarrytown, N. Y.: "I take 16 poultry papers, and carefully read them all. It is the only '16 to 1' scheme I could accept, and as near Bryanism as I ever hope to get. A FEW HENS ranks with the best of them."

F. D. Brinkerhoff, Owasco, N. Y.: "I have taken your paper A FEW HENS for three years, and find it full from cover to cover of good sound reading."

Harry B. Cook, Lenox, Mass.: "A FEW HENS has helped me more than any other paper or book on poultry."

\*\*\*

**An Earth House.** Rev. M. A. Stevens, Minneapolis, Minn., writes:

"A FEW HENS is the only poultry paper I take this year. It has helped me much."

I am an old man, and keep a few hens for the sake of diversion and fresh eggs (which I enjoy very much, and cannot always get them just as I like in the market.)

"In September, 1898, I built me a hen house. Dug a big hole in the ground, and put a roof over it on the dirt thrown out two feet high above the ground, so as to shed water well. House was six feet high in centre, four feet at sides. It was made air tight and well lighted. The hens have warmth in the coldest weather, and take solid comfort in kicking up the dirt when the thermometer is below zero. In summer it is cool and comfortable and splendidly ventilated through doors and windows. I have no other ventilation.

"The earth is a grand deodorizer, and in Winter, after being closed for days, there is, on entering, no disagreeable sense of foul air. I cannot stick my head into other hen houses here, made all above ground, without being greatly repelled by the foul smells. It is not so

with my house. I like it, and my hens like it. Summer or Winter they prefer it to the yard. I have 10 square feet of space to each hen.

"Last year I kept 25 hens (Brown Leghorns and mixed); all but one or two were pullets. Some of them began to lay in December, 1898. From January to January, last year, I got 3,731 eggs, making a little over an average of 10 eggs a day, the year through.

"Now I do not suppose you approve of making a hen house out of a hole in the ground, but I do, and would have no other. If built in the Fall it will be a little damp in the Winter, but the second Winter it is dry and all right. Best of all, the air is never disagreeable. That is my experience.

"I have found that the secret of getting eggs is good care. Many fowls are alternately stuffed and starved, and that is what is the matter with many who complain of ill luck.

"I am glad you have spoken out for humane transportation; keep on. There is no domestic creature more generally neglected and abused than the hen. There is not one man in a hundred that knows how to treat a flock of hens."

Unsuccessful Plants. **HENS** send us the following letter: "I've got a young friend here, about 20 years old, the son of the manager of a vast estate, of which the father has had charge for 15 years; it represents millions. The son never did a tap of any kind of work, but he got the chicken fever just the same, and has been bothering me for advice. I have given him all the literature I had on the subject, and lots of points, and now he thinks he can make a living at the business.

"I've tried to discourage the boy all I knew how, telling him and his parents that it would be utterly impossible for a greenhorn to succeed in a business that he knows nothing at all about, never having had a minute's practical experience. But, like all the rest, he knows it all.

"We all went up to Chester county yesterday to inspect the folly of a rich man's son—28 acres, nicely sloping to the South and East, high ground, absolutely dry; just the proper location for a poultry plant. I was surprised to see such a nice lay out. Everything built according to plans furnished by Prairie State Co. Four pipe system brooder houses for 1300 chicks (64 x 13); incubator house (18 x 20); five large chicken houses (15 x 30) divided in two, each with a scratching shed attached. Yards for each flock about 50 x 150 feet. Four of these houses are two-story, second floor well arranged for squab raising.

"There is also one long house for pigeons, built on lowest part of ground, which could be converted into breeding pens, if moved about 300 feet on high ground. This house alone cost \$700, and is no earthly use where it now is, as it is near a creek, and is on the only damp ground on the farm; but as it is over 100 feet long, could be converted into ten dandy breeding pens for fine stock.

"There are three 300-egg Prairie State incubators in the incubator house.

"Owner (a rich man's son) spent last November (two years ago), over \$5,000 on these chicken and pigeon buildings; got enough of it last April, sinking about \$4,000 more in foolishness, living expenses and useless stock, and would rent for \$200 per annum.

"And now I've got my hands full in trying to persuade the father that the son cannot make a living at chicken raising. The father now, after seeing the plant, the first he ever saw, got the fever also, and I think will rent the place. I have advised him to try to get some practical poultry raiser to take the son in hand and teach him the business. I think about two months of hard work would knock the idea out of his head. This son has a comrade who is just as inexperienced, who is going into partnership with him, and try to revolutionize the poultry industry.

"State your views on the subject, how absolutely foolish it would be for two young men, neither of whom knowing the slightest insight of the poultry business, and not having the slightest idea of the work required in raising the chickens, and disposing of the stock after it is raised, should they be fortunate enough to raise any."

It would indeed be a very foolish act for these young men to take hold of such a plant before they have learned at least the rudiments of the business. Stop for a moment and think what a business this would be if every fellow that went into it would succeed. Is there any vocation in life to which all men are adapted? The fact that poultry and eggs are staple articles and ever command a ready sale, does not guarantee success. True, that condition makes it all the better. But stock must be produced before it can be sold, and it must be produced at the lowest possible figure before it can yield a good profit. There is too much poultry farming that is like the late Henry Ward Beecher's cabbage growing—the cabbages cost the reverend gentleman one dollar a head, while the market price was but 10 cents.

In our editorial on the book: "200 Eggs a Year," which will be found in last issue, we give an extract that points to this very subject. There are certain qualifications required, and these are clearly set forth in our books "Profitable Poultry Farming," "A Living from Poultry," and "Broilers for Profit."

We always feel like discouraging those who become over-enthusiastic. Invariably they fail. Some time ago a young man came to our place and said he had five thousand dollars that came to him by inheritance, and he "wanted to invest it in the chicken business." He went on to describe his plans, how he would keep several thousand Leghorn hens, how he would arrange his buildings, all about the farm he had in view—and now could he make from that investment \$1,000 a year?

We tried our best to show him that there were two sides to the question, that there were an endless number of stumbling blocks in the way, and that it takes a strong heart, a body built of grit and determination, a character of patience and love, to go hand in hand with that capital. We tried to show him that a practical poultryman would

take that five thousand dollars and place it just where it was needed, and not waste a cent, while the inexperienced man would spend fully one-half of it on stock and facilities that would be a dead loss.

We aimed to show that no farm on which are quartered thousands of head of stock could succeed without a small army of experienced men in charge. The cost of so much experienced help would drown out the profits quicker than anything imaginable. But all we could say, all we tried to prove, could not change the opinion of this young man one bit. Since then we have heard nothing from him.

There is but one way to establish a successful poultry plant, and that is to begin small and grow gradually. The experience derived from ten fowls would in a year fit one to care for a hundred, and so on each year the flocks could be increased and the plant placed upon a firm foundation.

Trap Nests. The interest in trap nests does not abate one bit. Almost daily we receive letters asking for information about them, and the question repeatedly comes, "Which do you consider the best?" To this query we have but one reply: In the contest held on our farm, the Cuckoo won, having the most points of merit. But that is not saying that the Cuckoo is the best. There may be much better ones that we have never seen. Besides there is lots of room for improvement. We venture to say that next year there will be far better nests than what we now have. The inventive mind of the American poultryman will sooner or later gain perfection in this invention.

EMPIRE strain W. P. R., Buff Wyandotte and S. C. Brown Leghorns. Eggs and stock for sale. Eggs \$2 for 15. F. E. STILLMAN, Nile, N. Y.

**BARGAINS.** Barred P. Rock cockerels \$1 and up. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. Mrs. O. M. CLARK, Cable, Ohio.

S. C. B. LEGHORNS. 15 eggs for \$2, from four grand matings. W. H. DOBELL, Elmira, N. Y.

UFF LEGHORNS. Uniform buff throughout; solid buff tails; good layers; two choice pens. Arnold str. Eggs \$1.50, 13. Thos. Keeler, Waverly, N.Y.

**RHODE ISLAND** Reds and White Wyandotte stock. Eggs \$1 to \$3. Anthony A. Hanson, Maplewood, Mass.

**M. E. S. Trap Nest.** Plain, practical, accurate. 75c., two \$1.40, three \$2. No paint or varnish. Satisfaction or money back. G. J. Ritter, Park Ridge, N.J.

**FOR SALE.** From January to May, White Wyandotte eggs, \$1.50 per 15. After May, Fowls 15 cents per pound. WM. RULLMAN, 110 Church St., Annapolis, Md.

**CRUMHORN** Poultry Farm, W. J. Kilts, Milford, N.Y. Devoted to breeding S. C. W. Leghorns for great egg production and Standard points. Eggs from choice mated pens 75 cents per 15; \$4 per hundred.

**M. B. HATTON.** Proprietor of **Delta White Wyandotte Poultry Yards.** **THOROUGHBRED STOCK FOR SALE.** Eggs for hatching, \$1.00 per 15. Delta, Ohio.

**BEST BLOOD** money could purchase. Barred, Buff, White Rocks, Light Dark Brahma, White, Golden, Silver Wyandottes, Dorkings, Rose, White, Brown, Single Brown, Buff Leghorns. Eggs \$1.25 per 13; \$2.50 per 30. Fred Drake, Lawrence Station, N.J.

**Profitable Wh. Wyandottes.**

Eggs for hatching from good size, strong, vigorous, full breasted, prolific laying birds, \$1.50 per 13 straight. J. T. ANGELL, Pine Plains, N.Y.

**BIG MAIL** for Poultrymen. For 10 cts. we will insert your name in our poultry Directory, which will bring you hundreds of sample copies of poultry papers, incubator and poultry supply catalogues, etc., etc. **POULTRY DIRECTORY CO.**

Department 4, Box 769, Goshen, Ind.

The more we become acquainted with trap nests, the better we like them. They are certainly a drawing card for our breeders. They show us what are our best layers so that we may mate them and each year increase the egg records of our flocks. Previous to this year—outside of the contest we held—we did not use trap nests. We had to do a lot of guessing to get at individual records, and we had to give the drones credit for what they did not do, in order to get our average. Now we know what each hen is doing, how many hens are laying, and what the average is among our actual layers. We advise the use of trap nests, no matter how large or how small the flocks.

Another point in their favor is that we can pick out the layers and get rid of the drones. This will be a saving of feed, time and general care. That alone is an item that will compensate for all the time and trouble needed in taking the hens out of the traps and recording the number.

During the past month, Winfield Darling, South Setauket, L. I., sent us a trap nest of his own invention, which he calls the "Advance." We are giving it a test now.

J. C. Pratt, Chicago, Ills., forwards models of two nests for which he has

THE HENS  
ACKNOWLEDGE IT.  
There is no time wasted in sitting when a  
**Successful INCUBATOR**  
AND A  
**Successful Brooder**

are in the poultry house. There's nothing to do but eat and lay eggs. This incubator has hatched millions of chicks. Its regulator insures uniformity of temperature. It has patent egg-tray adjuster; has fire-proof lamp. Send 6 cents for new 150 page catalogue, printed in 5 languages. Finely illustrated; contains plans for poultry and brooder houses.

DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO., Box 423 Des Moines, Ia.

**HEAT REGULATORS**  
for incubators, nurseries, hospitals, greenhouses, kilns, various buildings, or other places. \$5.00 buys a thermostat to operate a valve damper or trip or all combined, that will keep the predetermined temperature within a fraction of a degree, in a variation outside the chamber of from 40 degrees below zero to a 100 or more above. We are needed wherever artificial heat is used and a close heat regulation is desired. This invention appeals to the art as the most practical, reliable and satisfactory heat regulator invented in this or any other country.

Scientific Thermostat Co., Stoughton, Wis.

**RABBITS**  
The only low-cost book on the Rabbit ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to Select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit and Belgian Hare, for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, a man of long experience with Rabbits. Third edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved with breeders' directory. Price 25 cts. or with AMERICAN Poultry ADVOCATE one year 40 cts.

CLARENCE C. DEPUY, Publisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

**I. K. FELCH & SON,**  
Box K, Natick, Mass.  
Light Brahma, Plymouth Rocks,  
and White Wyandottes,  
—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—  
Standard Points and Egg Records Combined.  
Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

applied for a patent. One works on a swing door and the other on a slide door. They are both good and practicable.

Fred A. Hanaford, So. Lancaster, Mass., writes: "I understand you have been using trap nests all fall, but you have not yet given us any records in A FEW HENS. Cannot you tell us how the pullets on the Experimental Farm have laid? How do the Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes and Brahmans compare? That is, individually and not collectively. I find looking after the trap nests and records one of the most interesting things in the business. My White Wyandotte pullet No. 26, laid 88 eggs in the four winter months (November to February,) and was broody once during the time. No. 33 laid 27 in January; No. 29 laid 26 eggs in 28 days of February, etc. Any old hen will make a record in March or April, but the bread winners make them before the first of March. I believe the time is coming fast when the fanciers will have to look sharp to the laying qualities as well as fancy points of their birds, in order to sell them."

Our correspondent is right, fanciers must show what the hens are capable of doing in the nest. Replying to the inquiry about our Fall records, would say, that during last Summer and Fall we were experimenting, in order to get a clearer idea of the workings of the different nests, and we did not begin making records until January 1st, and which we started in last issue.

In September issue of A FEW HENS we published descriptions of a trap nest, sent us by C. P. Hobart, Southington, Conn., and he sends us another letter more fully explaining:

"From the many letters which we have received asking for further particulars about the manufacture of my trap nest, which you so kindly published in the September issue of A FEW HENS, the writer is convinced that the publication was appreciated by a large number of your readers, and is assured that many will be benefited by it.

"It is in the hope of doing still others some good that we offer A FEW HENS the description of a new and much simpler trap, which we have since invented, and the trial of which is giving us good satisfaction.

"Our trap No. 2 consists of a box of about the same dimensions as our former one (No. 1), and differs only in the mechanism for closing the door, which drops in closing, instead of being raised as in trap No. 1. In trap No. 2 the sliding door is held in place by a small strip of half-inch board, about 6 inches long, and 1 1-2 inches wide, which works in grooves on a small platform in top of the box, and which passing through a slot or hole in the top of the front end of box, and also through the sliding door, holds the door in place till the slat is withdrawn.

"To the rear end of this slat is attached a cord which passes along the top of the box and down the rear end, and is fastened to the end of the movable bottom. This loose bottom is raised about 1 1-2 inches at the rear end, when the trap is set, but the weight of the hen when she enters presses down the false bottom, pulling up the cord attached to the slat,

which supports the door, and withdrawing it allows the door to drop and enclose the hen.

"There should be a small platform about two inches high and 3 or 4 inches wide, just inside the door, so the trap will not act until the hen is fairly inside. The door may be of one piece of board, but should not cover the whole entrance, but be small enough to leave a space of about 2 inches at top and bottom when the trap is closed.

"For simplicity and cheapness of construction, we think this trap hard to beat, and will be found fully effective."

\* \* \*

20th Century. Since last issue we have been fairly deluged with letters *pro* and *con* on the statements made concerning the 20th Century. It is wonderful what a live interest is taken in this subject. It is equally wonderful what strong arguments are presented on both sides. If this thing keeps up the editor will have nervous prostration. One letter convinces him he is right; the next assures him that he is wrong. But we cannot continue this any longer—our space is needed for poultry matter. It is immaterial if we are in the 20th Century or not, so long as each subscriber to A FEW HENS will see that his renewal of subscription is promptly sent in.

**UTILITY**, vigor and beauty combined. Absolutely perfect Pure White and Blue Barred Plymouth Rocks. Farm raised stock from the most noted breeders. Prolific layers of large brown eggs. \$1 per lb.; \$6 per 100. **SUNNYHILL POULTRY FARM**, A. H. BARTLETT, Prop., Box 216, Cochituate, Mass.

**ROUP** positively cured by Vivine Roup Tablets; price 75c., sample size, 30c. Send price and receive package by return mail. **VIVINE CHEM. CO.**, 9 1/2 Appleton St., Boston, Mass.

**GINSENG** **OUR MILLION DOLLAR BED** is all the talk. Our book tells all about it and **how to grow**; its value and what is used for. We are HEADQUARTERS for Seeds and Plants. Our catalogue will be mailed free for 2c stamp. **American Ginseng Gardens, Rose Hill, N.Y.**

**BARRED ROCK and WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS** \$1 per lb. I am breeding from such stock as A. C. Hawkins, Bradley Bros., A. F. Hunter and W. W. Kulp. My aim—quality not quantity. 75 per cent. fertility guaranteed. Two good cockerels. Write. C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

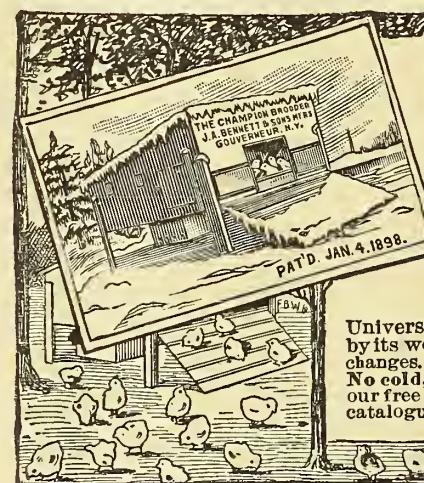
## Poultry Printing

Now is the time to look up your Stationery and Advertising for the winter and spring business. The successful man is the advertiser. We do up-to-date printing at small cost. **UNION PRINTING CO.**, Anthony, R. I.

## WY CHILD'S WYANDOTTES

WHITES AND SILVERS EXCLUSIVELY.

EGGS for hatching from strong, farm raised stock. Send stamp for circular. Wm. H. Child, Hatboro, Pa.



**Save Their Lives**

Don't let the chicks die after you have gone to the trouble and expense of hatching them. They'll live and grow if you put them in the

**\$5 CHAMPION BROODER.**

Universally acknowledged to be the best brooder made. "Known by its work." An out-door brooder absolutely unaffected by weather changes. Perfect distribution of heat and ventilation. Double floor. No cold, no dampness. Don't buy a brooder until you have examined our free catalogue. **J. A. Bennett & Sons, Box H, Gouverneur, N.Y.**

# FOUR Poultry Papers For \$1.15.

None Better; None as Good for Practical Poultrymen.

<b>FARM-POULTRY</b> , semi-monthly,	Price \$1.00
<b>INTER-STATE POULTRYMAN</b> , monthly,	.50
<b>POULTRY KEEPER</b> ,	" .50
<b>A FEW HENS</b> ,	" .25

You Save \$1.10 Cold Cash, and get the Cream of Poultry Knowledge.

The four papers one year, all sent to one address, post-paid, for \$1.15. Send all orders to us. The combination cannot be changed or filled as above, unless all ordered at one time.

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

Family Trade. Fred. A. Hanaford, South Lancaster, Mass., proprietor of the Alder Brook Poultry Farm, writes: "Some of A FEW HENS readers may be interested in working up a nice family trade for fresh eggs. I put mine in paste board boxes, made for the purpose, and the label on the top. The box and label cost a trifle less than a cent for a dozen eggs. It is a grand good scheme."

Besides the regular advertisement of the farm, this guarantee is found on the label: "All eggs sold under this label are guaranteed fresh laid at Alder Brook Farm."

\*\*\*

Utility Poultry. Theo. G. Boyer, Altamont, Ills., writes: "I cannot say enough in favor of A FEW HENS. I am a subscriber to six poultry journals, and I get more good, solid, substantial information from A FEW HENS than I do from the other five: Information that is practical and useful every day in a poultry plant large or small."

"I have been breeding poultry in a limited way for more than 20 years, trying to breed the so-called fancy, but it was not a satisfactory business on the whole, for I found that in breeding for fancy points alone I had to sacrifice utility. I had to inbreed too much. So I gave up the fancy."

"My term of office as postmaster here expires on the 1st of May, and then I expect to devote all my time, attention, and what talent I possess to a poultry plant on utility lines alone. I bought a farm of 84 acres which is a good high rolling piece of land for a prairie country, well adapted to raising poultry. I have sufficient capital to make the necessary improvements for a poultry farm. I will endeavor to breed for eggs principally, as I am some distance from a good market—Chicago being the nearest good market, and that is 220 miles, but we have direct railroad accommodations."

"Last Fall I purchased 30 Barred Plymouth Rock pullets, 6 White Plymouth Rock pullets, 12 Barred Plymouth Rock hens, 24 Brown Leghorn pullets. January 1st I commenced keeping a record. My pullets were all late hatched. Up to February 22, from 24 Brown Leghorn pullets I got 344 eggs; from 36 Plymouth Rock pullets and one dozen hens I received 532 eggs. My houses are not what they will be next year, as I did not have the time to repair them last Fall. They are not as warm as they should be. I shall build a new house, make it good and warm, with scratching sheds."

\*\*\*

Heavy Laying. George E. Johnson, North Tarrytown, N. Y., is quite a utility champion. His Rose Comb Brown Leghorn pens are made up of yearling hens with average record of 89 eggs in 107 days. Single Comb Brown Leghorn pens consist of fine, large, good color yearling hens, averaging 203 eggs per year. White Wyandotte pens, Standard weight, all white, yearlings, with individual records of 203 to 211 eggs per year, mated to strong vigorous cockerels whose dam laid 218 eggs.

Mr. Johnson uses trap nests, and mates for size, vigor, shape and color. His hens are bred to lay.

Agricultural Advertising. The March number of *Agricultural Advertising*, Chicago, is as its usual custom, devoted entirely to the poultry industry. It is an exceptionally good issue, and much credit is due the Frank B. White Co. for what they have done for the poultry world. But what puzzles us the most is that in all these issues, not once does this publication mention the name of A FEW HENS. We believe that every poultry publication in the country has been favorably mentioned, but for some reason or other A FEW HENS has been kept in the background, and yet this publication has never failed to tell of the good work that Mr. White and his associates are doing. It seems strange—but then strange things are daily happening.

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Farm Poultry. Wm. H. Child, Hatboro, Pa., who is a regular advertiser in A FEW HENS, recently contributed an interesting essay to the *Public Spirit*, of Hatboro, and which contains much useful matter. He clearly shows the farmer how he can improve his flock, and especially recommends our American breeds for this purpose. As the average market wants yellow skin and a plump breast, he points with pride to our American Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes as the ideal fowls. He says they combine quick growth, yellow skin, plump carcasses, great laying capacity, and hardiness. The whole article is replete with instructions that are doubly valuable to beginners, and good results from such writings soon manifest themselves.

Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels, \$2.00; pullets, \$1.00. E. R. VAN WAGNER, Crum Elbow, N. Y.

WHITE HOLLANDS. May, '99-hatch birds for breeding. C. Adell Kayner & Co., Lockport, N. Y.

BARRED P. Rocks exclusively. Latham and Bradly strain. Won 1st, 2d and 3d at Bristol, Conn. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$1.75 per 26. C. T. Bourgeois, Cromwell, Ct.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS. Bred for eggs and early maturing broilers. Eggs two dollars per 13. Two extra eggs for saying where you saw this advertisement. Correspondence cheerfully answered. Libbie Durfee, Box 16, Sylvania, O.

WHITE WYANDOTTES. Standard points and utility combined. Stock for sale. Eggs in season. Young Belgian Hares \$3.00 per pair. CUMMAQUID POULTRY FARM, Box 123, Cummaquid, Mass.

Tilton's Power Job Print, NORTHWOOD RIDGE, N. H.

Envelopes, Packet Heads, Cards, 50 cts. per 100, postpaid. Tags 40 cts. per 100. Send stamp for samples and prices of other work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

BUFF ROCKS, Buff Cochins, White Wyandottes, Houdans. Bred for business. None better, few as good. Why take chances? EGGS that will hatch, best matings, \$2.50 set; others at \$1. Don't delay and get left; order now. W. H. SCOVIL, Box S, East Lebanon, Maine.

## POULTRY Supplies

of every description. Illustrated catalogue free. THE I. F. SCHOTT CO., Box 194, New Pittsburg, (Wayne County), Ohio.

## EGGS from Prize Winners.

White Leghorns (Wyckoff and Knapp strain). Buff Leghorns (Arnold's strain). White Indian Games, White Wyandottes, Toulouse Geese. Prices to suit buyer. Osage Poultry Plant, Osage, Ohio.

## American Trap Nest

picks out the layers. Price of plans reduced to 50 cts.

## S. C. WHITE Leghorns.

My strain has a record of 207 eggs per hen. Stock for sale low if bought now. Circulars. J. H. WOODHEAD, Box 226, Leicester, Mass.

Leghorn Club. The first annual catalogue of the American Rose Comb Brown Leghorn Club has just been issued. It is a 52-page book replete with valuable information concerning this valuable variety. Among the essays published, we notice the strong argument for the utility cause, and this is notable in the articles by Myra V. Norys and C. R. Milhous. Miss Norys says: "There is one more point—an important one—in which the Rose-Combed Brown Leghorn of today leads the procession. This is the number of eggs, of good marketable size, produced on a given small space. The Bantam is not in the race, because her eggs are too small to be marketable. With the Rose-Combed Brown Leghorn, this is far from being the case. I cannot see where the rather common notion that this breed

## BLACK MINORCAS

Standard bred for 10 years for heavy layers. Good stock for sale at low prices. Eggs \$2.00 per sitting. Mrs. GEO. E. MONROE, Dryden, N. Y.

ANCONAS. Great egg producers. Eggs \$2 per 15. C. C. BEERY, Hicksville, Ohio.

200 EGG STRAIN W. WYANDOTTES. Ours score 92 to 94 1-2. Manchester, N. H., 1900, five entries. Won 1st W. Wy. eggs; 1st cock; 2d, 3d hens; 3d pen; (tied 2 pen). Defeated those that won Boston later. Stock \$1 to \$5. Eggs 13, \$2; 26, \$3; 50, \$5. Best R. I. Reds same. 1776 Farm, Warner, N. H.

INCUBATOR EGGS from pure bred White Wyandottes. \$3.00 per 100. SILAS DEAN, Oak Hill, N. Y.

EGGS FROM SELECTED HEAVY LAYING STOCK.

Wh. Wyandottes, Buff P. Rocks, Barred P. Rocks and S. C. W. Leghorns. \$1.00 for 15; \$4.00 for 100. W. M. RAWSON, North New Salem, Mass.

## Eggs for Hatching

WHITE WYANDOTTES, LIGHT BRAHMAS and S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS.

Strong, vigorous, heavy laying stock, bred for eggs and meat. Eggs \$1.25 per 13. GEO. W. DUNNICKAN, 531 Harrison St., Passaic, N. J.

## Rhode Island Reds

### The Most Profitable Fowl.

Early and constant layers. Fine table poultry. My stock is farm raised, and unexcelled in vigor, size and color. Utility and beauty is my aim in breeding. Eggs from choice birds, Rose or Single Comb, \$2.00 per 13; \$3.50 per 26.

A. E. CUMMINGS, Hudson, N. H.

Member of R. I. Red Club.

## All for One Dollar!

Profitable Poultry Farming, retail,	-	25 Cents.
A Living From Poultry,	-	25 "
Broilers for Profit,	-	50 "
Farm-Poultry Doctor,	-	50 "
A Few Hens, monthly, one year,	-	25 "
Total,		\$1.75.

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.) New Jersey

## Eggs for Hatching

Light Brahma, White and Barred Plymouth Rock, Pekin Duck. Twenty eggs for \$1.00. White Plymouth Rock eggs per 100, \$3.50.

WOODWARD M. POFFENBERGER, Bakersville, Wash. Co., Md.

EGGS \$1 per 15. Light Brahma. E. T. ABBADUSKA, Waldron, Mich.

POULTRY PAPER, illust'd, 20 pages, 25 cents per year. 4 months, trial 10 cents. Sample Free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cents. Catalogue of poultry books free. Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.



lays a small egg arose, unless it were from comparison with the White Leghorn, which lays an egg disproportionately large for its size, compared with other breeds. If the Rose-Combed Brown lays small eggs in some people's hands, it must be a matter of handling. We have pullets of this breed now (December) laying, whose eggs are not only larger than those of the Wyandotte pullets, but also larger than those of the *Wyandotte hens* of the flock! The birds, being but medium in size, may be kept in much larger numbers than those of large breeds in the same space, and thus the profit is of the best where market eggs are the chief concern.

"Even without the good features already noted, this modern exponent of all the good qualities of the various Leghorn varieties stands at the head since in number of eggs produced per hen in average flocks, in average conditions, there is scarcely another variety that will seriously dispute the pre-eminence of the Brown Leghorn. Isolated, recorded cases of grand work in the other breeds, make a good showing; but for general handling there is no breed like the Leghorn. This is generally admitted. It is a breed that will lay on the so-much despised CORN! It is a breed that will lay on wheat, or even oats. It is a breed that will lay in confinement, or on range; a breed that will lay in July, and also in January. What does any one want more, but a beef carcass? That can be had with some of the other breeds; but where can it be found in connection with all these other desirable qualities.

"What does it mean when about every leading writer or speaker in the country admits, even though he raise other breeds, that the Leghorns will lay the most eggs of any breed known? You will find Felch, Robinson, Roessle, Hunter and pretty nearly all the rest ON RECORD with this statement of fact. Look over a year's numbers of any poultry paper and see how unanimous poultry men are on this point in all cases where they have not a special axe to grind! No better evidence of the great value of the Leghorn can be found.

"Have you noticed that the cry for exercise is so loud and constant that one might almost take it to be the *one essential* to full egg baskets? Have you read "An Egg Farm," and noted the great number of ingenious contrivances to induce the fowls to take all the exercise possible? Put this with the fact that the Leghorn's lively interest in everything connected with life keeps her continually "on the go," and then wonder where your wits have been that you did not *know* that she couldn't help being the best layer in the land!

C. R. Millious gives this testimony: "No better egg producers exist today, and with the rose comb and short wattles, they are our ideal winter layers for our cold climate. With the improvements in our poultry houses, and the scratching shed as a stimulant, the Rose Comb Brown Leghorn cannot be surpassed as a money-maker. In my experience of ten years' breeding, I have never found the winter too cold for them to furnish plenty of eggs. During the winter of 1898-99, when eggs were bringing 60 to 75c. per dozen, my little girl,

four years old, asked for eggs for breakfast, she got them, because we had Rose Comb Brown Leghorns. Give them credit for the extra number of eggs they lay in a year above the heavier breeds, and they will more than buy the three or four pounds extra weight the heavier breeds possess, and do it with much less feed besides. Given free range, very little food is required when the weather is so they can be out. Confined in small space, it is my experience they do much better than many of the larger breeds—have tried this side by side. There are plenty of good new breeds, and will be many more. But if you want a breed you can tie to—one that will bring you money when others are eating their heads off—then give the Rose Comb Brown Leghorns a trial."

## Barred P. Rocks

A choice, early laying strain. Eggs \$1 per 15; \$1.50 per 30. GEO. A. HURLBERT, Cuyler, N. Y.

## My BUFF Orpingtons

Are egg machines. Eggs from record breakers \$2 per 15. CHAS. H. CANNEY, Dover, N. H.

## BOSTON SHOW

had some nice **R. I. REDS.** We have nice ones. Have kept them all winter for you. Will sell good pullets at \$2 each; ten for \$15; they are single comb. Cockerels \$3 each; either Reds, Wyandottes or Rocks. Eggs for hatching from same breeds, \$1 and \$2 per 15. Each breed kept on separate farm.

**BONNIEBRAE FARM,**  
S. N. FOLLANSBEE, Prop., Leominster, Mass.

## 213 EGG STRAIN

of **WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Knapp and Dutton strain. Prize winners. Also Fraser and Mack brown egg strain. First prize at Amesbury. Six at Boston on eggs (none darker). Strong, vigorous stock, and have best of care. Quick maturing. Cockerels have weighed 9 lbs. and more at six months. Also Rhode Island Reds (Single and Rose Comb). Eggs \$1.50 per setting. Satisfaction guaranteed.

**M. C. LOWELL, Amesbury, Mass.**

## Fruit and Poultry Farm

18 acres, situated in Hammonton, N. J. 9 acres in small fruits. 900 fruit trees in bearing; vineyard of 425 choice grapes. House, 9 rooms. Poultry houses and yards. Winters mild. Daily communication with New York, Philadelphia and Atlantic City. Satisfactory reasons given for selling. Price \$3,000. Part can stand on mortgage. Address, J. E. Watkins, Hammonton, N. J., or M. K. Boyer, editor this paper.

## WHITE WONDERS WHITE LEGHORNS

Score 92 to 95 Points.

Our White Wonder is the ideal farmers' fowl, being hardy, low rose comb; weight 8 to 9 pounds; fine winter layers.

### EGGS \$2 a SITTING of Either Breed.

We have a few White Wonder and White Leghorn cockerels for sale. Score up to 92 points. April and May hatched. Send us your orders early. We will sell nothing but what is honest, and we claim that our eggs will hatch. Try us.

**POHNER & PARKER, E. Liverpool, O.**

**EGGS** Br. and Wh. P. Rocks. \$1.50 per 15; \$6.00 per 100.  
OAKLAND FARM, Kelsey, Ohio.

**ORDERS BOOKED NOW FOR EGGS AFTER MAR. 1,** from heavy-laying, standard-bred stock. **Pekin Ducks** (Polland's), and **S. C. B. Leghorns** (Burgott's). Each \$1.50 per sitting. If you do not get 5 good, strong ducks, or 7 chicks, and it is the fault of the eggs, return unhatched eggs and I will send you another sitting absolutely free. What is fairer than this? Correspondence a pleasure.

THOMAS T. OSGOOD, Randolph, N. Y.

## CHICK MANNA



MAKES A CERTAINTY OF RAISING CHICKS AFTER HATCHING THEM.

Try a little and we'll sell you more.  
1 lb. by mail, . . . . 25c.  
5 lbs. by express, 40c.  
60 lb. case by frt. \$4.20

## Gape Worm Extractors

"Metz," a horse hair in a specially constructed brass tube, 25c each.

"Eureka," Trimmed Feather on wire handle does it well, 10c each, \$1 per doz.

"Silver," silver threads in loops on metal handle. Catches worms in the loops. 10c ea. \$1 a doz.

described in our Illustrated Catalogue which we send FREE upon request.

**JOHNSON & STOKES,**  
217-219 Market St., Philadelphia.

## If People only Knew

what strong, vigorous Cockerels and Pullets we have for sale and ready to enter the breeding pen, they surely would buy some. Considering the quality and vigor of the stock, we claim to have as good and cheap as any one. If you are interested in Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Guineas or Chickens, send for my catalogue, it fully describes the 23 varieties I breed. It is now time to inquire about incubator eggs. We can furnish them by the 100 or 1000. Prices quoted on application. D. A. MOUNT,

Pine Tree Farm, Jamesburg, N. J.

## JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT

was originated in 1810 by an old Family Physician. It is recommended by physicians. It has cured more diseases and relieved more suffering than any other remedy. It is the oldest in use.

## Safe, Soothing, Satisfying.

Every Mother should have it in the house. It is for Internal as much as External use. Relieves and promptly cures every form of inflammation.

Our book on INFLAMMATION, mailed free. 25 and 50c. I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

## EATON BROS., SEARSPORT, MAINE.

Originators and breeders of the light weight strain of **LIGHT BRAHMAS.** We have bred them fourteen years for eggs and early maturity. They are short-legged, active, very hardy, and great layers. Eggs \$1.00 per sitting; discount on quantity. P. O. address, Park, Maine.

## Money Making Quartette.

BRED FOR EGGS AND MEAT.

Eggs for Hatching at Bargain Prices. **Light Brahmans**, Heavy winter layers. Rich colored brown egg. Grand \$2 for 15; \$5 for 50. table fowls.

**White Wyandottes**, Bred for heavy laying and attractive broiler car-

\$1.50 for 15; \$4 for 50. casses.

**White Ply. Rocks**, Large bodied, first-class layers. King of the meat \$1.50 for 15; \$4 for 50. dum-sized roasters.

**S. C. Wh. Leghorns**, Regular "egg machines," producing a fine white egg. Bred for a continuous \$1.50 for 15; \$4 for 50. egg flow.

We mate, feed and care for our fowls to secure strong fertility, heavy laying, healthy, vigorous stock and improved meat qualities. Orders for eggs booked now.

**MICHAEL K. BOYER**, Hammonton, N. J.

## QUESTIONS ANSWERED.—Continued.

C. T.: Clover hay is mainly intended for winter feeding owing to lack of green food during the cold months. But where green food is equally scarce in summer, it is best to feed it the year round. We scald or cook it and mix with bran, cornmeal, middlings and ground oats.

G. K.: It is equally as poor policy to underfeed as to overfeed. Where the ration is not composed of too much fattening food, and the fowls are compelled to scratch in litter for their grain, there is not much danger in getting them too fat. We feed three times a day, but we keep the stock busy. The man who feeds but twice a day, and little at that, can never expect a large egg yield. We have noticed that the average advocate of two meals a day bases the average egg yield at 100 per annum. Now we believe that by a mixture of liberal feeding and exercise, 150 eggs can be made the general average.

Rev. M. A. S.: Blood meal is excellent for laying hens. Do not give more than 10 per cent. at a feeding. To a certain extent it will take the place of green bone.

Vegetables can be fed either cooked or raw; in the latter case they are not so fattening. We feed both ways. Hens relish cooked vegetables more than raw ones.

\*\*\*

## INCUBATION AND BROODING.

G. M. J.: The air of the incubator room must be as pure as it is possible to get it. Therefore, the fumes from either lamps or oil stoves, above what is necessary for hatching, should not be tolerated.

W. G. C.: It is a difficult matter to tell how to convert a hen house into a brooder house. Almost any style building will do, providing it is light and well protected, and does not have too much glass in it.

We use both the Prairie State and Champion brooders.

F. D. B.: The plan we use to air eggs is to place the trays on the top of the machine daily after the fourth day, and place a thermometer on the eggs. As soon as the temperature of the eggs goes down to 95, we return the eggs to the incubator. As the hatch progresses, we allow longer cooling until we have reached about 90 degrees on the 18th day. The machine must always be kept closed while the eggs are out for an airing.

The thermometer in the incubator should be placed about the second or third row from the front.

Your plan of running the machine the first week at 101 degrees, second week at 102, and third week 103, is a good one.

We do not believe in putting one egg more in the incubator than what can be given floor surface. Nothing is gained by stacking them until the first test.

Mrs. W. B. Y.: We believe you were at fault for poor hatch, and not the incubator. Variations from 80 to 106 are bound to work poor results.

R. R. L.: We never used a Cyphers incubator, but have received quite a number of good reports regarding it.

M. A.: An egg that has undergone 14 days incubation would show quite a development of the chick, otherwise it would be an infertile egg.

We believe that much of the trouble you are experiencing is due to poor eggs. Buying up from farmers is not a strong recommendation.

W. C. S.: We hardly think a man who has but "25 Light Brahma fowls, who has 25 bushels of wheat in his father's bin, who has to go 25 miles to a post office, who has to wait two days to get 25 eggs, and who has to make every 25 cents count," would want an incubator.

H. G. H.: The air cell on the 5th day should measure about a quarter of an inch; on the 10th day, a half inch; on the 15th day about five-eighths of an inch; and about three-quarters of an inch on the 19th day—the measurement taken in the middle of the egg. Such air cells indicate the proper amount of moisture; if less than that, too much moisture is given; if more, there is a lack of moisture.

## BUILDING.

C. J. W.: The only objection to having a scratching shed under the hen house is the difficulty to get under to clean it and gather eggs.

W. G. C.: Your house should have a double wall, with the paper between. The whitewash may soon rot the paper. We see no objection to light pine shavings for litter.

The best floor for a hen house is loose earth. Hens love to scratch and wallow in this dirt; when the floor is hard there is not much inducement for them to exercise.

**R. I. REDS.** Heavy layers. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. C. T. POLAND, Upton, Mass.

**MAC'S** thoroughbred Barred Rocks. Eggs \$2.00 per sitting. MacEnerney, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.

**EGGS** 75 to 90 per cent. fertile. White Wyandottes exclusively. Sat. guaranteed. 15, \$1.50; 100, \$5. W. E. Shoemaker, Laceyville, Pa.

**BARRED** and White Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandotte eggs. Not from culs, but from first-class pure bred, but not inbred stock. \$1.00 for 13; \$4.00 per 100. E. D. BARKER, Westerly, R. I.

**EGGS.** White and Barred Rock, S. C. W. Leghorn, \$1.50 per 15. W. C. B. Polish \$2.50 per 15. E. Marquand, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

**EGGS FOR HATCHING.** White Wyandottes exclusively. Strong, healthy and good layers, 75c. setting 13; 5 settings \$3. Incubator eggs \$4 pr. 100. Wm. D. Halsey, Bridge-Hampton, Suffolk Co., N. Y.

**NELSON'S Disinfectant**  
Especially valuable for dropping platforms, nest boxes and dust baths. Kills all disease germs and makes the odor of the house pure and sweet. Nothing like it. Price \$5.00 per barrel (200 lbs), freight prepaid. Ten pounds for 25 cents. Used on A Few Hens Experimental Farm. Address, CHAS. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

**EGGS for Hatching**  
White Wyandottes and R. I. Reds.

Strong, vigorous, prolific laying stock. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. For incubator \$4.00 per 100. C. A. SANBORN, Malden, Mass.

**S. C. BROWN LECHORNS**

Average record of 189 eggs each a year. Strictly pure stock, bred several years for eggs only.

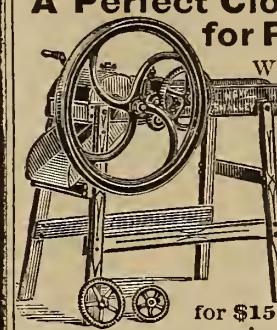
Early layers, vigorous stock. \$1.50 per sitting. **BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS**, 181 eggs each in a year. Honest brown egg strain. Begin laying in October if hatched reasonably early, say in April. \$1.50 per sitting, or for \$2.00 per sitting a trap nest free. F. CHRISTMAN, Sellersville, Pa.

**DO YOU WANT LAYERS?** My Barred Plymouth Rocks have been selected for several years for their quick growth and early laying qualities. Eggs \$1.00 per setting; \$6.00 per hundred. C. F. EASTMAN, Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

**EGGS** S. and White Wyandottes. \$1.50 per 15; \$6.00 per 100. OAKLAND FARM, Kelsey, Ohio.

# The New SMALLEY CUTTER No. 11½

## A Perfect Clover Cutter for Poultrymen



Will cut from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton an hour. Has hard wood frame and box, patent safety fly wheel and two extra heavy  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch knives. Weight 204 pounds. A \$25.00 cutter for \$15.00—to introduce.

Freight prepaid if cash is sent with order. We will refund your money if, after 30 days' trial, the cutter doesn't give satisfaction. Any poultry feeder can save its cost twice over in a single season. No other machine like it.

Agency with First Order.  
**SMALLEY MFG. CO., Sole Mfrs.,**  
Manitowoc, Wis.

## EGGS for HATCHING

From Good, Strong, Sturdy Stock. White Wyandotte eggs, good hatches guaranteed. 15 for \$2; 30 for \$3.50; 45 for \$4.50. These are bred for business.

White Indian Game eggs from the very best stock in America, bar none. 15 for \$4; 30 for \$7.

Light Brahma Bantam eggs from little beauties. Imported stock and the cream of America's best stock. 15 for \$5. Send for list of winnings.

**ORR'S CLEAR GRIT**, Standard for Quality. D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

# 20th Century Wh. Wyandottes.

Heavy layers of dark brown eggs. Early hatched. Bred on practical lines in scratching shed houses. Have unlimited range. New blood every year.

Also Forbes strain of

## ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS.

None better. Eggs, 13 for \$1.50; 26 for \$2.50; 39 for \$3.50. Incubator eggs, \$6.00 per 100. Address, H. HOLMES, Wethersfield, Conn.

## Liberty Poultry Farm, HARRINGTON PARK, N. J.

Eggs for hatching from standard bred White Wyandottes, Barred Fly. Rocks and White Leghorns. Mated for size and egg production. \$1.50 per setting; \$6 per 100. Pekin Duck eggs, \$1.50 per setting; \$7 per 100. White Holland Turkey eggs in season.

## WHITE WYANDOTTES

Bred from prolific laying strains and prize-winners. Hardy, farm raised stock.

## Fertility Running High.

None but strictly fresh eggs sent out, and what are laid on my own farm. \$1.50 per 13. Stock all sold. J. H. MATHIAS, Penllyn, Pa.

## White Wyandottes

Hardy, farm raised stock. Bred for eggs and meat. Fertile eggs from heavy winter layers. 13 for \$1.00; 50 for \$3.00; 100 for \$5.50.

I. J. STRINGHAM, 105 Park Place, New York, N. Y.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

O. S.: The Reliable trap nest is made by M. L. Newell, Box 179, Denver, Colo. The Ideal by F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Me. Both are excellent traps.

The Cuckoo, invented by John P. Geishaker, Hammonton, and now manufactured and for sale by Dunlap Supply Co., Yardley, Pa., won in the contest held last year.

J. P. M.: Where the roosting pens are thoroughly washed with a solution of chloride of lime, and Lambert's Death to Lice Special, it would not be strictly necessary to whitewash the walls, as far as lice are concerned. But a good coating of whitewash will greatly purify the interior of the buildings. The hens should be marked with leg bands. These can be purchased from W. V. Russ, 28 Vesey street, New York city.

L. C. F.: You will find the Climax a very good leg band. For sale by all dealers in poultry supplies.

We would be glad to have the accounts of operations on your farm.

A. A. H.: We have Cuckoo trap nests in ten pens on our farm, and never once have we had a hen catch her head in the doors. Such a thing is possible but not probable.

C. E. R.: There are a good many trap nests on the market, so that to place a new one, it would have to possess merits of improvement over the others. Still there is always room for one more.

C. J. C.: We do not know of any opening on a poultry farm for a beginner. The best plan is to advertise for the same.

G. H. H.: It is a mistake to try to make chickens roost that have just been removed from the brooder. Early roosting causes crooked breast bones. Better let them gradually teach themselves.

H. B. C.: Any one of the Lice Paints advertised in A FEW HENS would be valuable for painting the roosts, dropping boards, or walls of the old building which you suspect is lousy.

E. D. H.: Lining the inside of the house with tarred paper would, to a certain extent, be proof against lice, but only temporary. To fight lice one must be continually on the alert. Kerosene and insect powder are equally effective.

Rev. M. A. S.: About the cheapest, and at the same time one of the best disinfectants is Whitney's Carbolate of Lime, manufactured by Whitney Bros., Natick, Mass. Nelson's Disinfectant, made by C. K. Nelson, Hammonton, N. J., and advertised in this paper is strictly first-class.

After a hen is two years the chances for profit gradually grow slim.

**AFRICAN GEESE** are surest breeders and most prolific and profitable of any of the large kinds. If you want lots of most marketable early goslings put good Embden males with genuine African females or African males with large Embden or Toulouse females. Our African, Embden and Toulouse geese HAVE BEEN BREED TO SUIT THE FARMER. EGGS FOR HATCHING up to June 1st, from finest old geese, show winners, \$4 for five; from young geese \$2.50 for five. Orders booked for young geese to be delivered in fall. Descriptive circular free. Address, SAMUEL CUSHMAN, Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

## Diseases—Remedy and Prevention.

*The Secret of Success Lies in Preventing Disease—Prevention is Secured by Good Treatment and Prompt Service When Slight Ailments Show Themselves.*

## Disinfect.

Overfat invites disease.

Do not feed damaged food.

Dust baths are invaluable.

A comfortable hen is in good health.

Many fowls are killed with kindness.

Plow up the runs and sow a green crop.

Stagnant water is full of disease germs.

Don't let the hens get "that tired feeling."

It requires healthy stock for strong fertility.

Treat the "slight ailments" and avoid disease.

Vertigo is one of the penalties of high feeding.

The hard working hen has no time to get sick.

Wash the drinking fountains thoroughly once a week.

Filthy houses soon become infected with lice and disease.

Get your ammunition ready to fight the great army of lice.

Too heavy feeding of raw meat will produce worms in fowls.

Insect powders, lice killing paints and disinfectants are now in order.

Tobacco dust liberally sprinkled in the nests will give lice a set-back.

**Wh. P. Rocks.** Great bargain in eggs from pen headed by Madison Sq. prize cock, 1900. Son of famous White Cloud. \$3, 13. Rev. W. T. Dorward, Stelton, N. J.

**STANDARD** and business bred White Wyandottes and B. P. Rocks from leading strains. Eggs \$1 per 15. T. B. Burdick, Little Genesee, N. Y.

**Buff Plymouth Rocks**

Pedigreed strains. Prolific layers of large brown eggs. Stock unsurpassed for vigor, shape and color. Utility and beauty combined. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. CHARLES H. CANNEY, Dover, N. H.

**FOR SALE.** Maple Tree Poultry Farm, Two-family house, large barns, scratching shed houses, stocked with 300 utility B. P. Rocks and W. Wyandottes; 7 acres, lots fruit. Everything. Particulars. A. ELY, Wyckoff, N. J. Eggs for Hatching \$1 per 13; \$6 per 100.

1814 EGGS from 37 White Wyandottes in 70 days, January 1st to March 11th, 1899. A 70 per cent. yield in winter. Eggs from selected pens \$1 per 13. E. L. PRICKETT, Hazardville, Conn.

**SUNSHINE** in the home. My **BUFF ROCKS** will bring it. Unsurpassed in health and beauty. Eggs from two grand pens mated for Standard points and utility combined, \$2 per 15. Mammoth Toulouse Geese eggs, \$1 per 6. **NELLIE REED**, Meadow Farm Poultry Yards, Coldwater, Mich.

**EGGS** S. C. Brown and White Leghorns. \$1.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 100. OAKLAND FARM, Kelsey, Ohio.

**BUFF LEGHORNS.**

Heavy Layers. Newburgh Winners.

EGGS \$1.50 PER 13.

CHAS. W. NEWMAN, Oak Hill, New York.

**White Wyandottes ONLY.**

Entire time given to breeding for dark eggs. Eight yards of prolific layers. Above standard weight. Eggs from pedigreed beauties \$2 per 15. Record sent with each egg. We will try to please.

Homestead Poultry Farm, Hopkinton, Mass.

**EGGS** from S. C. R. I. Reds and W. Wyand. Good stock. \$1 per 13. C. S. Buchan, Andover, Mass.

**BUFF LEGHORNS** that are buff from tip to tip (Arnold strain). Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$2.00 per 30. A 75 per cent. hatch or order duplicated at half price. HILL SIDE POULTRY YARDS, P. E. CHICHESTER, Proprietor, Oak Hill, N. Y.

**BARRED P. ROCKS**, extra laying strain (Hunter). One customer reports 115 dozen eggs to March 31, from 24 pullets. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$4 per 100. 11 pullets \$1. L. P. Van Horn, E. Troy, Pa.

**EGGS FOR HATCHING** from thoroughbred stock. B. P. Rocks, Light Brahmans, S. C. B. Minoras, B. Langshans. Eggs \$1 per 15; \$1.75 per 30; \$4 per 100. Nine years a breeder. Satisfaction guaranteed. JOS. KAISER, Port Oram, N. J.

**Buff Rock Eggs**

America's most popular fowl. I can fill orders of good hatchable eggs from flock having farm range, at \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30; \$3 per 50; \$5 per 100. Eggs from my very best pens, Chicago, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus prize winners. \$3 per 15; \$5 per 30. O. S. EVANS, Roxbury, Ohio.

**Rhode Island Reds**

For good and early laying stock secure your eggs of HENRY B. SPENCER, Lock Box 447, Ayer, Mass. \$1.00 per 13; \$4.00 per 100.

**NIAGARA FARM**

Eggs Guaranteed 75 per cent. Fertile.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$4 per 30; \$7 per 100. Pure white birds, large, blocky and vigorous.

**MAMMOTH PEKIN DUCKS.** Eggs \$1 per 11; \$3 per 50; \$5 per 100. Large birds, bred for business and early eggs.

Editor Boyer recommends our Poultry Foods, Stock and Eggs. Belgian Hares, Cut Clover, Poultry Food, Poultry Supplies. Circulars and samples free. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

**Practical Poultry Book**

64-pages, 56 illustrations. A book for all classes of **POULTRY KEEPERS**.

**DAILY EGG RECORD**, good for one year, including formula how to prepare and use **LIQUID LOUSE KILLER**.

**ALL FOR 10 CENTS, POSTPAID.** W. S. GALLATIN & SONS, York, Pa.

**THERE IS JUST AS GOOD**

BIRDS AS MINE ARE, BUT EVERYBODY HAS NOT GOT THEM.

**BARRED Plymouth Rocks**

and **White Wyandottes**

Bred for a fancy broiler, roaster and egg trade, that I have in Bar Harbor. They satisfy my trade, and I think they will yours.

EGGS \$1.00 PER SETTING OF 15; \$5.00 PER HUNDRED.

FRED SPROUL, Veazie, Maine.

**FOR SALE**

First-class Incubator Eggs, White Wyandottes and Barred Rocks. Only \$2 per setting; \$6 per 100, now.

**Maplewood Farm Thoroughbred Poultry**, Woodstock, Vermont.

J. FOSTER RHODES, Prop. WM. A. CLIFFORD, M'g'r.

**Fruit Farm for Sale.**

500 peach trees, large apple orchard, lot small fruit. A living on this farm for you while the chickens are growing. Good markets for everything. Town of 10,000 people; school nearby. Good buildings, Price \$3,600; \$2,500 down.

S. N. FOLLANSBEE, Leominster, Mass.

We have White Wyandotte eggs from 94-point birds, \$1.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 100.

**STROUD'S WYANDOTTES.**

The best of practical utility stock. Eggs after April 20th, from my Whites, at \$1, and my Buffs, at \$1.50 per 15. W. F. STROUD, Box B, Merchantville, N. J.

A spoonful of oil of turpentine is a good remedy for tapeworm in poultry. One of the best Spring tonics for poultry is rusty iron placed in the drinking vessel. Add an ounce of carbolic acid to a pail of whitewash and you will get double benefit for your trouble. For nests infested with vermin, carbolic acid with water, and applied liberally to all parts of the nest box, is recommended. Good care, good conditions, proper food and exercise, will maintain the good health of a flock. Lack of either will open the doors for trouble. Every poultry house should have a double run, so that the one part can be disinfected by growing a green crop while the other is used. A teaspoonful of Johnson's Anodyne Liniment in a pint of drinking water daily for about a week will cure pretty bad cases of "rattling in the throat." The sunshine of Spring is the best of tonics and purifiers. Allow the fowls to bask in it, and see that the houses are open so that it can penetrate every corner. Overcrowding causes fowls to sweat at night, and this soon rots the feathers at the root. This is one reason why so many fowls shed feathers outside of the regular molting season. Texas Farm and Ranch says that every chicken that dies on the premises should be promptly buried—buried near a fruit tree that disease be not spread, and that the usefulness of the bird be not ended with its death. Don't forget that no matter how careful and cleanly a system may be followed, the grey louse is very apt to be found on the heads of hen-hatched chicks. Use a very little sweet oil on the tops of the chicks' heads after they are three days old. Use it in the evening just at dusk when the chicks have gone "to bed" for the night. Geo. O. Brown says: Don't forget that it is sheer folly to doctor a hen for any disease or ailment and allow her the freedom of the poultry yard. Ailing fowls should be treated in a great degree the same as human beings. When sick not only is medicine a necessity, but rest is also required. A sick fowl running with the flock is a dangerous experiment or, more correctly putting it, a very sure source for disseminating what may turn out to be a contagion. Pen up the sick fowl and treat it as near like a human patient as possible.

#### Ducks and Ducklings.

*Valuable Experiences by Jager, Hallock and Others—How they Feed on Long Island.*

Avoid disturbances. Test the egg in the incubator often. Watercress is grand greens for ducks. Cull out the drakes that worry the ducks. Bad eggs in the machine affect the others. The duck business requires skill, practice and study. A duck can stand poor shelter better than any other fowl.

Sharples Cream Separators—Profitable Dairying.

A good picker will pick 40 to 50 ducks, and sometimes more in a day.

A dry house and plenty of bedding is the duck's idea of a comfortable home.

A good way to feed green food is to cast it in the drinking water; the ducks love to fish it out.

During June and July a drake will take care of twice the number of ducks he can earlier in the season.

W. H. Pye, at Eastport, uses 400 to 500 hens for hatching, and uses incubators only when there are no more hens available.

Changes in the bill of fare of the ducks do more to upset the fertility of the eggs than any neglect in providing the essentials.

Duck eggs should never be kept longer than six days, as their fertility is an easy victim to age, and the eggs are apt to smell as soon as they are entrusted to the machine.

Theo. F. Jager, in *American Fancier*, says to get good and fertile eggs breed from birds that are favorably known in this respect, and that have distinguished themselves in producing vigorous as well as fast and large growing youngsters.

If the breeding stock has been selected for the brightness of their eyes, for the roundness of their orbs, and for stamina and muscle power in preference to size, weight and sluggishness, they cannot help but give good results.

**WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS** from large, vigorous, farm raised stock, \$1.25 for 15. Bantam eggs, \$1 for 12. C. Hildreth Reeves, Salem, N. J.

#### My Brown Leghorns

are great layers. Eggs from selected stock at farmers' prices. Send for price-list.

LEE SHORTT, Lower Cabot, Vt.

**PURELY BUSINESS BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.** Strong, practical stock, bred for profit. Excellent layers. Eggs \$1 for 15; \$4 for 100.

E. A. JOSLYN, Hammonton, N. J.

#### Sunny Side Poultry Yards

Will sell eggs from heavy laying White Wyandottes for \$1.50 per setting. Ten chicks guaranteed.

C. R. CLAUSON, Middletown, N. Y.

**EGGS. BARRED P. ROCKS, WH. WYANDOTTES.** \$1.50 per 13. Vigorous stock, bred for winter layers. Yearling hens for sale after May 10th.

L. G. HAWKS, Fishkill Landing, N. Y.

#### Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds

**EGGS FOR HATCHING, \$1 PER 13.** From Thoroughbred Stock.

EGBERT R. REID, Englewood, N. J.

#### MOUNTAIN VIEW POULTRY FARM

Have bred S. C. WHITE and B. LEGHORNS since 1895, and developed strains of heavy layers sure to please. To introduce them I offer eggs at the low price of \$1.00 per 15.

F. L. DUBOIS, Box 45, Loyd, Ulster Co., N. Y.

#### WINTER EGGS.

May be obtained by getting my strain of B. P. Rocks. Pulletts begin at five and one-half months, and lay one hundred and ninety brown eggs in a year. Eggs \$1.50 a sitting. LAKEVIEW POULTRY YARDS, R. W. WHIPPLE, Proprietor, Hamilton, Mass.

#### 2065 EGGS

From January 1st, '99, to December 1st. The above record from eleven B. P. Rocks, entered in Farm Journal Experiment Club. Average per hen, 187 8-10 in eleven mouths. Vigor first-class. Set 285 eggs under hens; hatched 263. Eggs for hatching for sale, also a few fine cockerels. Above pen headed by a fine Hawkins cock. For particulars address Mrs. B. C. Cowles, Box 118, Plantsville, Ct.

Practical stock that won 63 prem. on 54 entries last season, including winners at Boston. B. and W. Rocks, W. Wyans, S. C. B. and W. Legs, R. I. Reds, Bl. Javas. Eggs. Cir. G. A. Chapin, Hampden, Mass.

Average Record of 180 Eggs from

#### White Wyandottes

EGGS \$1.00 PER SITTING.

**SILVER WYANDOTTES** extra fine stock, Eggs \$1.00 a sitting

C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

#### BARRED P. ROCKS and WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Pedigreed from best strains. Vigorous, stocky birds. Early and heavy layers of brown eggs. Yellow beaks and legs, grand shape and color. B. Rocks eggs \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. White Wyandottes eggs \$1.50 per 15. Testing over 90 per cent. fertile. Can sell stock low.

E. W. HARRIS, North Acton, Mass.



#### Eggs, Eggs,

From prize stock, the characteristics of which are **WHITE**, **YELLOW** and **BROWN**. White plumage, yellow legs, brown eggs. The eggs are fertile and fresh. \$2.00 per 15; \$3.50 per 30.

G. H. HILDERBRAND, Jr., Emsworth, Pa.

#### HEAVY LAYING STOCK.

Eggs \$1.00 per 15; \$3.00 per 60. Twenty leading varieties of Poultry, Ducks and Guineas. Stock for sale. Catalogue free.

JAMES M. SMITH & CO., Perkiomenville, Montg. Co., Pa., U. S. A.

#### EGGS FOR HATCHING

from choice pens of Barred and White P. Rocks, White Wyandottes, S. C. Black Minoreas and S. C. Brown Leghorns. 15 eggs for \$1.25; 30 for \$2.25; 50 for \$3; 100 for \$5. Incubator eggs \$4 for 100. Send for circular. Albert Haines, Masonville, N. J.

*Hens that Lay are hens that Pay, Bassler's strains are built that way.*

Barred Plymouth Rocks, Single and Rose Comb Brown Leghorns, Single Comb Buff and White Leghorns, Light Brahmans.

Improve the Laying Qualities of your fowls by the introduction of new blood from these **Choice Thoroughbred Strains**. 13 eggs \$1.50; 26 eggs \$2. A few cockerels for sale. Address,

W. E. BASSLER, "Wayside Home" Poultry Yards, Middleburg, N. Y.

#### EGGS REASONABLE

#### From Thoroughbreds.

90c. for 15 From Wh., Buff and Bd. P. Rocks, \$1.75 for 30 Wh., Golden, Silver and Bl. Wyans, 2.50 for 45 Lt. and Dark Brahmans, Wh. and 4.00 for 75 Black Minoreas, Red Caps, S. S. 5.00 for 100 Hamburgs, S. C. Brown, Buff and Wh. Leghorns, R. C. Wh. Leghorns, Red P. and Mexican Grey Games, Houdans, Am. Dominiques, Black Javas and Pekin Ducks.

Also \$2.00 for every 15 eggs from Sherwoods, Wh. Wonders, Wh. and Cornish Ind. Games.

Fertility guaranteed. See our catalog; it's free. Order remitting by P. O. Order, or write your wants.

BROOKSIDE PLTY. YARDS, Nelson, Pa.

#### Eggs for Hatching

From Rose Comb Brown or White Leghorns, Wh. Wyandottes and Wh. Plymouth Rocks.

#### Bred for BUSINESS.

\$1.50 per 13; \$4.00 per 40; \$7.00 per 100.

A. K. SNODGRASS, Camden, Pa.

#### RAISE QUAILS

and make one to two thousand dollars a year. Introducer cleared four thousand dollars a year with only one man to help him occasionally. Send 25 cts. and read the history of the introducer. It's only a small book, but it will tell you all about quails and how to raise them for profit. Address,

C. GROSS, Lake Creek, Benton Co., Mo.

Mr. Jager says it is one thing to have good breeders, and the next thing is to not only hold their good breeding characteristics but to improve on same in the offspring. Feed them by all means as breeders ought to be fed. Do not use the fattening ration, as it is fed to the young ducklings intended for market, for ill effects will be the result.

The main trouble with beginners is that they insist in too closely confining their ducks over night, thereby causing them to feel uncomfortably warm, says Theo. F. Jager, and as this is conducive to start them molting, and as a molt will in each and every case cause a drop in the receipts of the eggs as well as in their fertility, it is easily seen why we should keep the birds from feeling too warm at night.

Theo. F. Jager advises gathering the eggs as early in the morning after the laying as possible, half past seven o'clock is about right, and after they have been washed in summer-warm water, place them on a bench or table in a temperate room that they may dry off. Never rub them dry, as the oily secretion of the shell would get lost. They must be turned every other day in order to keep the gerin, which always floats on the top, from adhering to the shell.

Most of the Long Island duck raisers do very little other farming, their feed largely being purchased. Some of them, too, are devoted entirely to ducks, while others are branching out into chickens for broilers and roasters and hens for eggs. A. J. Hallock says that he can raise broilers with very little extra expense, as he works them in after the duck season is practically over, or before it begins in Spring, thus keeping his incubators and brooders going continuously.

To show the importance of purity in food, an experience of A. J. Hallock is worth quoting: At one time a lot of ducks were sick, and off their feed; they were dying, and no cause could be discovered. All the ingredients of the soft food were thoroughly examined, and found to be all right, and it was a mystery as to the source of the trouble. Finally, one day the feeder happened to catch the odor from the sand they were using, and found that it was very foul; it had been dug out of the bottom of the creek near where the ducks had run, and was supposed to be all right, but it proved that the leachings from the duck yards had flown down over it, and rendered it impure, and this resulted in the trouble mentioned. The throwing out of this, and the substitution of perfectly clean, pure sand, remedied the difficulty.

F. H. Valentine, in *Rural New-Yorker*, in giving an account of a trip to the Long Island duck raisers, says: A.

**RHODE ISLAND REDS** mature early, lay early and make superb dressed poultry. Have as yellow skin and legs as any white fowl. Are not angular, bony and leggy when dressed, and have no dark pin feathers. Are hardest and lay largest (thick-shelled, pink-tinted) eggs of any fowl of their size. They just suit the Farmer. **EGGS FOR HATCHING** from rugged meat and eggs stock of good ancestry, either rose or single comb variety, at \$2 per 15; \$3 per 30; \$8 per 100. Descriptive circular free. Address SAMUEL CUSHMAN, Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

J. Hallock feeds his young ducks, when first taken from the incubators, a mixture of about one-third by measure of bran, cornmeal, and Red Dog flour. This is thoroughly mixed with water enough to make it crumbly, and fed about four times a day, all they will eat clean. They are fed on board trays or troughs; some of them on sacks spread down in the pens. After they have finished eating these are taken up and cleaned, so that none is left over. After about a week or two, meat meal is added to the ration, and about the same time Eel grass chopped up in the troughs is also mixed in. This Eel grass furnishes a very cheap green food, as the only expense connected with it is gathering it from the inlets near by. The ducks eat it ravenously, and Mr. Hallock says that ducks would live on it, and do well, with no other food, although it would take a great deal of it to satisfy them. Eel grass is put into the mixing trough and chopped up with a shovel; as it is very tender, it is very little work to do this, and it is thus mixed with the soft feed. Clean sand is also mixed with the feed of the ducks. This ration is fed practically until the ducks are ready to kill.

**BUFF** Rocks \$1.50 per 13. C. B. Stevens, Newark, O.

**Barred** Rocks bred for beauty, size, early laying. Eggs \$2 per 13. Mrs. Tilla Leach, Cheneyville, Ills.

**GIANT** Strain Brahmans, White Leghorns. Eggs \$2.00 per 13. C. B. TRAVIS, Brighton, Mass.

**R. I. REDS**, Light Wt. Lt. Brahmans. Great layers. \$1 per 13 eggs. J. G. Senter, Windham Centre, Maine.

**PIT GAMES.** EGGS \$1.50 PER FIFTEEN. C. G. Baxter, Merchantville, N. J.

**R. I. RED EGGS** \$1.00 per 26. Ed. F. Staples, Box 17, Lakeville, Mass.

**EGGS** R. I. Reds \$1.00 per sitting. Circular. W. N. FLETCHER, Reading, Mass.

**TRAP NEST BOX.** My book on egg production tells how to make one; 50 cents. Circular free. E. L. WARREN, Wolfboro, N. H.

**WHITE LEGHORNS**  
**WHITE WYANDOTTES**  
**BRED FOR EGGS AND BROILERS.**  
\$1 for 13; \$3.50 for 50; \$6 for 100.  
G. E. CHALFANT, Hammonton, N. J.

**EGGS** from heavy laying B. P. Rocks; bred for layers for five years. Hunter and Coburn strain. \$2.00 per sitting. Pure bred Pekin Ducks eggs \$1.00 per dozen. Stock for sale in fall. GEORGE H. BUTLER, Eliot, Maine.

**DO YOU WANT** Standard goods at live-and-let-live prices? Eggs from special matings Wh. Wyandottes, 15 for \$1; Barred P. Rock and Lt. Brahmans, 15 for \$1.50; S. C. Bl. Minorcas, 15, \$1; 100, \$4. Oyster Shells and Mica C. Grit at lowest prices. Sat. guaranteed. OTTER CREEK POULTRY FARM, Watertown, N. Y. Formerly Vergennes, Vt.

**VAUGHN'S**  
**BRED TO LAY**  
**WHITE WYANDOTTES EGGS.**  
To know more about them write.  
LYONS HILL POULTRY FARM, Athol Centre, Mass.

**ROSE COMB LEGHORNS.**

Brown and White Leghorns that are bred for eggs as well as points. All orders for 50 eggs or less, shipped the same day eggs are laid. Eggs \$2 for 15; \$5 for 50. Breeding cockerels \$2. C. H. CLARK, Box 1, Cobalt, Conn.

**HALL'S White Wyandottes**

Utility and fancy combined. Eggs \$2.00 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mr. & Mrs. CHAS. H. HALL, Box 293, Normal, Illinois.

Partridge Cochin, Wh. Wonder, from best strains. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. Indian Rock Farm, Port Providence, Pa.

**BARRED P.** Rock Incubator Eggs \$5.00 per 100; \$1.00 per 13. Pure bred, vigorous stock, the result of years of careful breeding. R. C. B. Leghorn Eggs, \$1.00 for 15. Abram Tallman, Englewood, N. J.

**WHITE Wyandotte** Eggs \$1.50 per sitting. Hunter and Woods' strains. Recorded layers. No more cockerels. G. E. Miles, Park Ridge, N. J.

**PEKIN DUCKS.** Fine, healthy stock from the best strains. Eggs only \$1 per 13; \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. W. T. Archer, Port Oran, N. J.

**Utility White Wyandottes**

Eggs from a pen headed by a cockerel whose dam has a record of 214 eggs. \$1.50 for 14. A hatch of seven guaranteed. E. G. GARBER, Bellville, Ohio.

**TABER'S**  
**White WYANDOTTES**  
**P. ROCKS**

are bred for utility as well as standard points. Eggs \$1.00 for 13; \$3.00 for 50. Young stock for sale.

MAPLE GROVE POULTRY YARDS,  
S. A. TABER, Prop., (Alle. Co.,) Fillmore, N. Y.

Hartnest Strain of Pedigreed

**Light Brahmans.**

Nothing can beat these birds for eggs and beauty. Fit for show, and the pride of the poultry yards. Eggs \$2.50 per sitting. Common stock headed by a Hartnest beauty, \$1.50 per sitting.

JAMES J. LYDON, Highland St., Dorchester, Mass.

**TRY "THE PRACTICAL HEN SEPARATOR."**

Separates the layers from the non-layers. Equal to the best. Separator \$1.25. Plans 75 cents.

E. A. JOSLYN, Haunmonton, N. J.

**E. B. WILMARTH,**

New Rochelle, N. Y.  
Box Y, will sell fifty choice S. C. White

Leghorn pullets in lots of ten, at \$1.00 each. Fifty good White Wyandotte pullets, \$1.50 each. Incubator eggs, \$5.00 per hundred.

**Goodwin's Pekin Ducks**

Won 31st, 32d prizes at the Columbus, O. State Poultry Show, in Jan., 1900, in a class with the best in the State. At the Painesville, O. Show they walked off with the SILVER CUP offered for the ten highest scoring ducks in show. They are money-makers and weigh 8 to 12 pounds each. Eggs from prize stock \$1.25 per 11. If you want the best try us.

T. D. GOODWIN, Columbia Station, Ohio.

**1880 UTILITY 1900.**

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS**  
**and WHITE WYANDOTTES.**

Won at Vermont big show, January, 1900: 1st and 3d cockerel; 1st, 2d and 3d pullet; 2d and 3d hen; 1st and 2d big brown eggs; 1st on dressed chickens; 1st and 3d breeding pen; 5 special best P. Rocks.

**EGGS AND STOCK FOR SALE.**

Hillside Farm, W. D. Foster, Prop., Woodstock, Vt.

**PUTNEY'S WYANDOTTES**

WHITE EXCLUSIVELY.

**BRED FOR BUSINESS**

Standard Points and Egg Record combined. Eggs \$1.00 per 15; \$4.00 per 60; \$6.00 per 100. A. F. PUTNEY, 44 Pleasant St., South Natick, Mass.

**BUFF LEGHORNS**

large size, solid, even color, Arnold and Dr. Wiant strains. I have bred them nine years. Eggs from my best mating \$1.50 per 15.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES**

Eggs from two very fine matings \$1 per 15; \$3 per 50. Photograph of birds for stamp. Rose and Single Comb

**BLACK MINORCAS**

Eggs from Rose Combs \$1.50 per 15; from Single Comb stock \$1 per 15. Write.

GEO. A. HURLBERT, Cuyler, N. Y.

**LOOK HERE!**

I believe you will get double the worth of your money by buying eggs from **BINDER'S** at these prices. Hawkins and Thompson's B. P. Rocks. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. S. C. B. Leghorns \$1 per 15; \$1.50 per 30. Light Brahma eggs at \$1 per 15; \$1.50 per 30.

G. P. BINDER, West Newton, Pa.

## Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of March—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

## NEW YORK.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Dulany & Branin, 41 Hewitt Avenue, New York City.

	Highest	Lowest	Avg.
Fresh eggs.....	21	13	16 1-6
Philada. Roasting Chickens, 17	16 1-2	16 3-4	
Broilers.....	35	27	30 2-5
Fowls.....	12	10 1-2	11 1-3
Ducks.....	15	14	14 1-2
Turkeys, spring, fancy .....	14	14	14
Caponos .....	21	19	20

## PHILADELPHIA.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Philip Quigley, 303 South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa.

	Highest	Lowest	Avg.
Fresh Eggs.....	16	14 1-2	15 1-4
Hens, live.....	11 1-2	10	10 3-4
Hens, dressed .....	12	11	11 2-3
Roasting Chickens, live....	11	11	11
Roasting Chickens, dressed	13	11	12
Old Roosters, live.....	7 1-2	7	7 3-4
Old Roosters, dressed .....	8	8	8
Geese, live.....	11	10	10 1-2
Geese, dressed .....	9	8	8 1-2
Ducks, live.....	12	12	12
Ducks, dressed .....	13	12	12 1-2
Turkeys, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Turkeys, dressed .....	14	12	13
Caponos, dressed.....	18	14	16
Spring chickens, live .....	11	10 1-2	10 3-4
Spring chickens, dressed..	13	12	12 1-2
Winter chickens, live.....	16	16	16
Broilers, live .....	16	16	16
Broilers, dressed .....	20	20	20

## BOSTON.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Bennett, Rand & Co., 20 North Market St., Boston, Mass.

	Highest	Lowest	Avg.
Eggs, nearby and Cape ....	20	14	17
Eggs, Eastern, .....	20	13	16 2-7
Eggs, Vt. and N. H.....	20	13	16 2-7
Eggs, West'n, selected fresh	20	12	15 1-2
Eggs, refrigerator .....	15	11	12 3-4
Duck eggs.....	27	26	26 1-2
NORTHERN and EASTERN.			
Chickens, dressed.....	18	18	18
Chickens, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Fowls, dressed .....	14	13	13 1-2
Fowls, live.....	12	11	11 1-2
Roosters, live.....	7	6	6 1-2
Ducks, dressed .....	12	12	12
Geese, dressed .....	12	12	12
WESTERN.			
Turkeys, .....	13	13	13
Fowls.....	12	10	11
Old cocks .....	8	7 1-2	7 3-4
Chickens, roasting .....	13	13	13
Geese.....	10	10	10
Ducks.....	12	12	12
Caponos.....	14	14	14
Jersey chickens.....	17	16	16 1-2

## CHICAGO.

Furnished A FEW HENS by the Sprague Commission Co., 218 So. Water St., Chicago, Ill.

	Highest	Lowest	Avg.
Eggs, fresh.....	16 1-2	10	13 1-2
Duck eggs.....	20	18	19
Goose eggs.....	40	40	40
Chickens, hens, scalded....	10	8	9
Chickens, hens, alive.....	9 1-2	8	8 3-4
Spring chickens, scalded..	10	9	9 1-4
Spring chickens, live.....	9 1-2	8	8 3-4
Broilers.....	12 1-2	12	12 3-4
Caponos.....	12	12	12
Roosters, live.....	5	5	5
Roosters, dressed .....	6	6	6
Ducks, live, old.....	9 1-2	9 1-2	9 1-2
Ducks, dressed .....	11	10	10 2-3
Geese, live, per dozen.....	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$7.00
Geese, dressed, old .....	9	8 1-2	8 3-4
Turkey hens, dressed.....	12	10	11
Turkey hens, live.....	9	8	8 2-3
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	9	8 1-2	8 3-4
Turkey gobblers, live.....	7 1-2	7 1-2	7 1-2

**BARRED** Plymouth Rock Eggs. Farm raised utility exhibition stock. Great layers, brown eggs. Results will please you. See my birds, or write. \$1 sitting, 6, \$5. R. J. Ross, Belmont, Mass.

**I PAY** Express charges. Single Comb White Leghorns. Healthy, vigorous beautiful business birds. Great layers. Eggs \$2 per 15. Every 10th customer gets their eggs free and money refunded. H. L. Berry, May Street, Akron, Ohio.

**EGGS** from utility Barred, Buff and White Ply. Rocks; Kulp's R. C. Br. Legs., \$1 per 15. Northup's Rose Comb Black Minorcas \$2 per 13. P. T. HOAGLAND, Oak Hill, N. Y.

**Eggs for Hatching** from S. C. Brown Leghorns, S. and R. C. White Leghorns, \$1.00 per setting. Incubator eggs, \$5.00 per 100. W. ANDREW BASHAW, Box 17, Wilkinsoville, Mass.

## Notes in Passing.

**News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.**

Difficulties in the poultry business are only made to overcome.

The hen is a lay-delegate and belongs to the popular set.—*Southern Fancier*.

In the poultry business success comes in layers! Eggs-zactly!—*Southern Fancier*.

Mix fine sawdust with the white of an egg to a stiff paste for filling nail holes and cracks.

Treat failures as stepping stones to further efforts and they will bring success, says *Fancy Fowls*.

A fruitful hen will give you plenty of hen fruit. She usually chants her lay, although there is no chance about it.—*Southern Fancier*.

It is probably safe to say that for 1900 the number of fowls in the United States pretty nearly reaches 500,000,000, which, with their products, represents a value of over \$400,000,000.

In Winter if poultry stand unemployed they are disposed to have disease. Idle meditation always leads to bad habits, while a healthy and vigorous body suggests business, which, with fowls, means winter eggs and early chickens.

The hired man or the hired woman are not the ones to look after the poultry interests on the farm. The business—if it is to be made such with the expectation of securing paying success—must be looked after in a business way by interested parties, says G. O. Brown, in Baltimore *Sun*.

**THIS PAPER** will cost you only Twenty-five Cents for TWELVE MONTHS. Can you afford to do without it? We accept postage stamps in payment for it. Order at once, so as to get every issue.

# Eggs for Hatching.

## Will Condition Powder Affect the Fertility of Eggs for Hatching?

On this point M. K. BOYER, of Farm-Poultry, says he has repeatedly experimented. He, too, like some others, at one time charged condition powders with producing infertile eggs, but the trials made with Sheridan's Condition Powder has fully convinced him that by its use the stock are strengthened and made more vigorous, and such a condition is bound to not only produce strong fertile eggs, but hardy chicks. (Read test case below.)

## A Test Case.

**FANNY FIELD**, in *Farm-Poultry*, July, 1895, says:—

Of course you want to know how the hatching of eggs from my hens, "encouraged" by Sheridan's Condition Powder, turned out, and how the chicks are coming on; and I am as eager to tell as you are to hear. Up to date (July 1) I set one hundred and ninety-four eggs; one hundred and fifty-three hatched, and there are yet twenty-five to hear from. Every chick came from the shell strong and well. We have lost twenty-three, but only one by sickness. Three were crushed by the mother hens, two strayed off in the wet grass after a rain, and died from the effects of the chill, the hawks took five, and skunks gobbed an even dozen.

[NOTE.—It looks as though the Sheridan's Condition Powder improved, rather than injured, the fertility of the eggs, judging from the above test case.]

## No Matter What Kind of Foods You Use!

## Sheridan's Condition Powder

is needed with it to assure perfect assimilation of the food elements necessary to produce eggs. It is absolutely pure; Highly concentrated; Most economical, because such small doses; In quantity costs less than one-tenth cent a day per hen. Use freely when hens are laying eggs for hatching.

Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers, or sent by mail. Large cans most economical to buy,

**IF YOU CAN'T GET IT NEAR HOME, SEND TO US. ASK FIRST.**

We send one pack, 25 cts; five, \$1.00. A two-pound can, \$1.20; Six, \$5.00. Express paid. Sample copy "best Poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

## People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

The Keystone Granite Grit Works, Perkiomenville, are advertising a new grit and dusting bath.

Wolverton & Co., Osage, Iowa, are sending out attractive circulars of poultry electrotypes and printing.

John H. Slack, Bloomsbury, N. J., is a dealer in poultry supplies, and can supply almost any article needed at low rates.

Woods Egg-Holder Co., 2 North Main street, St. Louis, Mo., have just issued attractive circulars of their egg boxes, cabinets, etc.

C. E. White, Fox Chase, Philadelphia, Pa., is sending out circulars advertising poultry foods and supplies which he is offering at bargain prices.

W. J. Cheney, Cuba, Crawford county, Mo., is a well-known breeder of S. C. W. Leghorns, White Wyandottes, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmans.

The Poulan Poultry Club, Poulan, Ga., are about issuing a quarterly poultry bulletin for gratuitous distribution among the farmers of Southern Georgia.

The Cyphers Incubator Co., Wayland, N. Y., have just issued a 32-page circular which briefly describes their goods, and which will be sent free to all who apply.

The Empire State Brooder Co., Hall's Corners, N. Y., would be pleased to send A FEW HENS' readers their cut rate price list on brooders, stoves, thermometers, etc.

The Buff Rocks advertised by N. D. Ford, Medway, N. Y., are bred for size, vigor and laying qualities. Mr. Ford is better prepared this year than ever before to fill egg orders, at \$1.50 per 13.

E. P. Elithorp, formerly of Vergennes, Vt., has now taken charge of the Otter Creek Poultry Farm, at Watertown, N. Y. Mr. Elithorp is an advertiser in A FEW HENS, and has stock from the best breeders in the country.

F. Christman, Sellersville, Pa., who is advertising in A FEW HENS, offers to send a trap nest with every order enclosing \$2 for a sitting of eggs, or \$3 for two sittings. Here is a chance to get good eggs and a good trap at low-down figures.

W. B. Gibson & Sons, West Alexander, Pa., have just issued a very attractive circular of their Barred Plymouth Rocks. This is one of the most reliable firms in the country, and their stock is strictly first-class. Those interested in Barred Rocks should write for a copy of this circular.

E. C. Stearns & Co., Syracuse, N. Y., manufacturers of Webster & Hannum bone cutters, Stearns clover cutter, and Stearns grit and shell crusher, have just published a valuable book entitled "Money Makers for Dealers." It fully describes their goods, and is of value to those interested.

Attention is called to the advertisement of A. C. Hawkins, Lancaster, Mass., in last issue. While Mr. Hawkins is a new advertiser in A FEW HENS, he is not, by any means, new in the poultry world. The man who has never heard of Hawkins must not be well booked on Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes.

**BUFF ROCKS** only. Eggs \$1.00 per sitting. A. L. HOWARD, Box 55, Windham, N. Y.

**WHITE P. ROCKS.** Bred for size, shape, shade, silver. Winners at Philadelphia, '99, and Wilkes-Barre, '99. Eggs \$2.00 per 15; \$3.00 per 30. W. A. WAGNER, Luzerne, Pa.

**PURE BRED** Silver Wyandottes. Eggs 5c. each. Try them. D. R. HERSHY, Combs, Md.

**EGGS, 26 \$1.25.** B. P. R. and 4 var. Leg. Free Cir. EDWARD LAFOT, Lakefield, Minn.

**WHITE and SILVER** Wyandottes. Bred for layers. Eggs \$1 per 15. Ephraim Stimpson, Windham, N. Y.

**S. C. White Leghorns.** Eggs \$1 per 13 from the cream of my flock. J. A. AINGE, Dover, N. J.

**WHITE LEGHORN PLACE.** Eggs guaranteed 75 per cent fertile. \$1 per 13; \$5 per 100. W. H. Warren, Ransomville, N. Y.

**BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS.** Buff Pekin Bantams, Buff Leghorns, Barred Plymouth Rocks, White and Silver Laced Wyandottes and Pekin Ducks. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. HERBERT MCCOY, 1119 Elm Street, Peekskill, N. Y.

**MATTHEWMAN'S BARRED ROCKS** are utility and fancy combined. Great layers. Eggs \$2.00 per 15. S. MATTHEWMAN, Colfax, Ind.

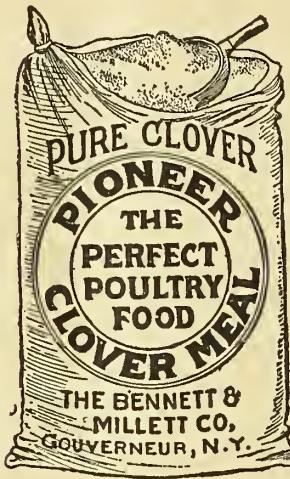
# WHITE Wyandottes

## Golden Egg Strain.

The most useful and most beautiful strain. Eggs \$2 and \$3. Full information upon application.

WM. E. SARGENT, Lancaster, Mass.

A FEW HENS is pleased to add the name of R. G. Buffinton, Fall River, Mass., to its list of advertisers. Mr. Buffinton is a breeder of Buff fowls of different varieties, besides novelties in the poultry line. His advertisement will be found elsewhere in this issue. In a recent letter he says he has recently imported from England a trio of Buff ducks. He now has a nice flock of them, and will raise all he can this summer, and be ready to put them on the market next fall.



MEAL, which is, without question, the best substitute for green grass yet discovered. It is not cut clover, but a very fine meal manufactured by grinding to a powder, by a special process, the finest quality of perfectly cured clover, retaining the fresh green color and the delightful aroma of clover in bloom. It is fed without any fuss or bother, a little of the meal being mixed with the regular mash. There are no woody stems, no blades of grass, or anything else in it to cause "crop-bound." It helps to keep the fowls in a perfectly healthy condition, increases the egg yield and moreover increases the fertility of eggs, which is of special importance now, as the incubating season approaches. Poultry editors and poultry keepers in general have hailed the Pioneer Clover Meal as one of the greatest achievements of the generation for the advancement of profitable poultry raising. It will well pay our readers to send to the Bennett & Millett Co., Gouverneur, N. Y., for a free copy of a handsome booklet, describing this excellent food and its use.

**MAMMOTH** Pekin Ducks eggs for hatching. 20 eggs for \$1. Mrs. G. B. YOUNG, No. Warren, Me.

**WHITE Wyandottes** exclusively. Eggs \$1.00. GEO. W. KENNEY, Box 1, Darien Center, N. Y.

**FINE** laying strain B. Leghorns. Eggs 75c. per 13; \$1.00 for 26. D. D. TOOKER, Holt, Mich.

**EGGS,** incubator. Specialty:—Wh. Buff, Silver Eggs; Bd.; Wh. P. Rocks; Wh. Leg. Per 100, \$3. Maple Shade Poultry Farm, Stanfordville, N. Y.

**GOLDEN BUFF LEGHORNS.** Eggs \$1.00 per 15. Most complete catalogue ever issued for stamp. GEO. H. WOLF, Westminster, Md.

**R. I. REDS.** Good stock and good layers. Eggs \$1.00 per sitting. F. A. COBB, JR., West Somerville, Mass.

**BLACK LANGSHANS EGGS.** Not from culls, but from first-class, heavy laying strain. \$1 per 15. GEO. T. FISHER, Cassadaga, N. Y.

**BARRED ROCKS and R. I. REDS.** Eggs \$1 per 15. C. D. BROCKETT, Windham (Greene Co.), N. Y.

**FOR SALE.** Three hens, one pullet, one cockerel; all fine C. I. Games. Only \$5.00. Write quick. W. D. MCNAUGHTON, Tompkins, Pa.

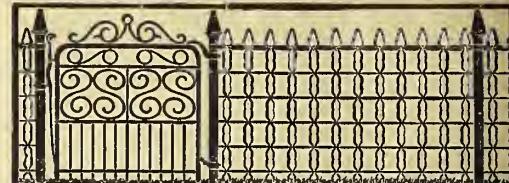
**WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS.** Grand breeders. Eggs \$2.00 for nine. OAKLAND FARM, Kelsey, Ohio.

**BARRED P. ROCK EGGS** Stock large, vigorous and good layers. 26, \$1.25; 50, \$2. H. D. HATHAWAY, Scipio Siding, Ohio.

The American White Plymouth Rock Club has just issued its second annual catalogue, which is a most valuable and attractive book of 64 pages. The frontispiece is a colored plate of a standard White Plymouth Rock male, a composite for criticisms of judges and breeders. The rest of the book is devoted to contributions on the merits of the breed, principally from a practical standpoint. We shall probably, in the near future, give extracts from the book, showing the utility qualities of the breed.

Every poultry or pigeon raiser will be interested in the new catalogues issued by the Harvey Seed Company, 65 to 69 Ellicott street, Buffalo, N. Y. It lists a full line of poultry supplies of every kind and for every purpose, including poultry foods, incubators, drinking fountains, caponizing instruments, wire netting, spray pumps, insecticides, food cookers, etc. No matter what you want the Harvey Seed Co. has it, and the prices they quote are reasonable and just. Their catalogue is free.

Most people like an enclosure about the home. They like that delicious sense of exclusion, security and ownership, that comes of being free from intrusion of men and animals. Many of us have been troubled in the past in the selection of an appropriate fence for surrounding the home.



The board and wood picket fences are objectionable because of their great cost, because they decay rapidly under shade, because they are expensive to keep in repair, and above all, because they obscure the beauty of the surroundings and add nothing in attractiveness. A modern up-to-date fence which is free from all objections, and which is superior from every point of view, is the Hartman Steel Rod Picket Fence, manufactured by the Hartman Manufacturing Company of Ellwood City, Pa. It is strong, durable and long-lived, and when accompanied with the Hartman Ornamental Steel Gates, adds very materially to the beauty of an enclosure. It is ideal for all kinds of public enclosures, as cemeteries, school grounds, public squares, parks, church yards, etc. The cost is inconsiderable when you take into account the beauty and utility of the fence. Write these people for illustrated catalogue. Address them at Ellwood City, Pa., or 509 Broadway, New York City.

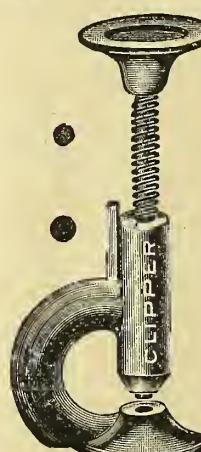
## Hanaford's Wachusett Strain

### WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Bred to lay in winter. Vigorous white birds, selected for beauty and whose individual laying qualities have been determined by using trap nests. March eggs have shown good fertility and chicks are unusually strong and lively. No. 29 laid 50 eggs in 53 days. January 28 to March 21. (For other records see March 15 ad.) Eggs from three choice pens, having farm range, 15, for \$1. Specially favorable rates on lots of 50 or 100. If interested write me. Try at least one setting of this strain and be sure of November and December eggs.

FRED. A. HANAFORD, Alder Brook Poultry Farm, South Lancaster, Mass.

## Poultry Marker.



With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save your money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

**25 cts.**

Send all orders to us.

**FIVE MARKERS** SENT FOR \$1.00.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.